

INTELLIGENCE

# REPORT

SPRING 1997

ISSUE 86

PUBLISHED BY  
KLANWATCH

A PROJECT OF  
THE SOUTHERN  
POVERTY  
LAW CENTER



Lester Bob Larve/Sygma

## TWO YEARS AFTER: THE PATRIOT MOVEMENT SINCE OKLAHOMA CITY

PATRIOT GROUPS POSE  
CONTINUED THREAT PAGE 4

MILITIAS FORM INTELLIGENCE  
NETWORKS PAGE 8

THE GROWING SEPARATIST  
MOVEMENT PAGE 10

# INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SPRING 1997  
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2 INTELLIGENCE BRIEFS

4 PATRIOT GROUPS INCREASING

5 ARMY OF TERROR

7 USING THE INTERNET

8 PREPARING FOR WAR

10 SOVEREIGN NATION

13 COMMON-LAW COURTS

15 MINISTER OF PROPAGANDA

18 PATRIOT MAP

20 PATRIOT GROUPS

27 PATRIOT CRIMES

31 FOR THE RECORD

PUBLISHED BY  
KLANWATCH  
AND  
THE MILITIA  
TASK FORCE

PROJECTS OF  
THE SOUTHERN  
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LAW CENTER

# INTELLIGENCE BRIEFS

## IT ONLY TAKES ONE

Federal prosecutors in the Northwest have gotten mixed results in two high profile anti-terrorism cases, raising questions about potential problems in the Oklahoma City bombing trial.

A federal jury in Seattle convicted four Washington State Militia members on weapons and explosives charges in February, but deadlocked on conspiracy charges against them and three other defendants. The anti-government group allegedly planned to kill federal agents. A retrial will be held in June.

In Spokane, Wash., a federal judge declared a mistrial in the case against three Christian separatists accused of armed robberies and bombings. The jury voted to convict the trio on weapons possession and theft, but couldn't agree on the more serious charges. The government will try again in June.

A lone holdout — acting on his "feelings" rather than the evidence, according to a fellow juror — reportedly hung the Spokane jury. That raised the spectre of an anti-government zealot turning up on the Timothy McVeigh jury and deadlocking the panel.

While the feds were disappointed in the two Washington trials, they won convincing victories in several other cases against the extreme right. Juries convicted two members of a white supremacist bank robbery gang, the Aryan Republican Army, and prosecutors secured guilty pleas from two others. Militia members from Georgia and Arizona were found guilty of weapons and explosives charges. And prosecutors slam-dunked "paper terrorists" involved in bogus check and lien schemes in North Carolina, Texas and California. (see Patriot Crimes, page 27).

The Intelligence Report is compiled by the Klanwatch staff of the Southern Poverty Law Center and its Militia Task Force. It is published quarterly.

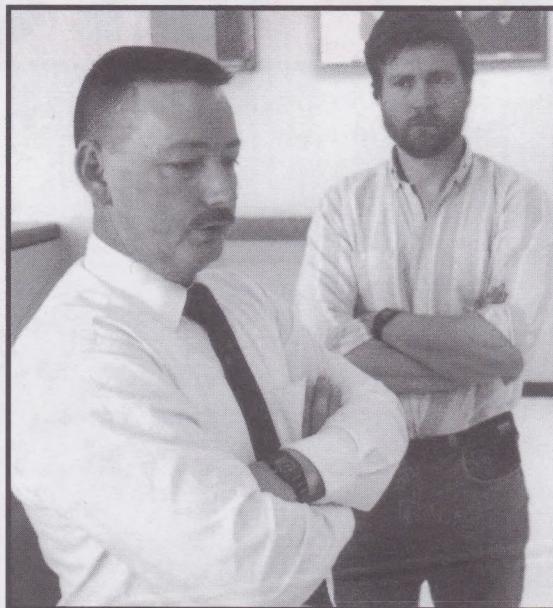
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## CYBER-HATE

In the culture of the Internet, unfettered speech is honored above all other values. But like other forums of free expression, cyberspace harbors hatemongers who abuse this right by harassing racial and ethnic minorities.

The problem is especially acute on college campuses, where the Baltimore-based Prejudice Institute has documented an increase in e-mail harassment of minorities. Many of the perpetrators escape detection by using publicly accessible computers whose previous users have not logged off.

Greg Eberle/Longview Wash. Daily News



Charles Barbee (left) and Robert Berry, members of an anti-government group charged with armed robberies and bombings.

were Asian-American students.

• Members of the Asian Students Association at Indiana University in Bloomington opened their electronic mailboxes in February to find an obscenity-filled tirade ordering them to leave the country.

• A poem that contained racial slurs was sent via e-mail to faculty members and students at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

• Hackers plastered racial slurs and the words "White Power" on the World Wide Web site of the NCAA in March.

• Some 140,000 subscribers of a Virginia-based Internet access service received a racist joke via e-mail in January.

Klanwatch is a project of the Southern Poverty Law Center, an organization supported entirely by private donations. No government funds are involved. Inquiries are welcome.

Law enforcement inquiries should be sent to Joe Roy, Klanwatch Director, at the following address:

Klanwatch Project  
P.O. Box 548  
Montgomery, AL 36104-0548

## MILITIA LEADER CHECKS OUT

Gadsden Minutemen leader Jeff Randall has renounced the militia movement, calling members "either conspiracy kooks or criminals." Announcing his departure from the east Alabama paramilitary group he formed, Randall said he "[did]n't want any jack-booted, commando-wannabe militia men in my backyard or neighborhood," according to an Associated Press story.

Randall gained national notoriety when he distributed videotapes of racist activities at the "Good Ol' Boys Roundup," an event attended by police officers and federal agents in east Tennessee. Randall says he now regrets disclosing the tape because "good agents [were] dragged down with the few bad ones."

A frequent critic of law enforcement agencies, Randall sent letters of apology to the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the FBI and Etowah County Sheriff James Hayes.

## NO "LEG TO STAND ON"

A Klan group whose members torched a black church should not be dismissed from a civil suit seeking damages for the fire, a South Carolina judge ruled in March.

"Frankly, you don't have a leg to stand on," Circuit Judge Don Beatty told a Klan attorney in rejecting his motion for dismissal.

The Southern Poverty Law Center sued the Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan last year on behalf of the Macedonia Baptist Church of Bloomville, S.C. The church was gutted by fire in June 1995, and four members of the North Carolina-based Klan group have plead guilty to arson and conspiracy in connection with the blaze.

The lawsuit claims the Christian Knights is responsible for its members' actions. It seeks financial compensation for the Macedonia congregation, which has since built a new church.

In its motion to dismiss, the Klan claimed that it had not authorized the burning of the Macedonia Church. It also argued that its activities were protected by the First Amendment.

In its response, the Law Center pointed out that the issue of whether the Klan members were carrying out the Klan's policies when they burned the church was an issue of fact for the jury. They also cited controlling Supreme Court authority that established that the First Amendment cannot be used as a shield for violence.

Circuit Judge Don Beatty said the Klan did not prove any legal flaws in the suit and ordered the case to proceed.

## NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST

The Spokane *Spokesman-Review*'s coverage of the Patriot Movement is now available to readers outside the Pacific Northwest. The newspaper has reprinted correspondent Bill Morlin's three-part series on the far right, "The War Within," which exhaustively details the beliefs, tactics and crimes of the Patriot Movement. The attractively designed, 12-page special issue contains a number of pictures by photographer Dan McComb.

Request a copy of "The War Within" from the Editor, *Spokesman-Review*, P.O. Box 2160, Spokane, Wash., 99210. For ongoing coverage of the far right, check the *Spokesman-Review*'s site on the World Wide Web at [www.virtuallyNW.com/](http://www.virtuallyNW.com/). McComb's photographs are also available for viewing on the Internet at [www.visual-contact.com](http://www.visual-contact.com). ▲

## THE HATE CALENDAR

Hate and extremist groups frequently take action on the anniversary of a key historical event. Law enforcement agencies should prepare for demonstrations, rallies or criminal activity on these upcoming dates:

### JUNE

- 3 Posse Comitatus leader Gordon Kahl was killed in 1983 in Arkansas. Kahl is considered a martyr by many extremists.
- 26 On this date in 1969, gays in New York City rose up against police repression, in what is now called the Stonewall Riot. Homosexual rights groups commemorating this event may be targeted by anti-gay groups. (Note: June is Gay and Lesbian Pride Month; parades and rallies celebrating the occasion may draw the attention of hate groups.)
- 30 German Nazis killed thousands of Adolf Hitler's opponents on this date in 1933, an event now referred to as the Night of the Long Knives.

30 Klanswoman Kathy Ainsworth was killed on this date in 1968 during a shootout with police in Meridian, Miss. She and companion Thomas Tarrants were planning to bomb a Jewish businessman's home.

### JULY

13 Nathan Bedford Forrest, the Ku Klux Klan's first imperial wizard, was born on this date in 1821.

### AUG

21 U.S. Marshals began the siege of Randy Weaver's cabin in Ruby Ridge, Idaho, in 1992. One day later, an FBI sniper killed Weaver's wife, Vicki. This event is a rallying point for the militia/Patriot movement.

Compiled by Klanwatch with assistance from Robert A. VanderHorst of Toledo, Ohio.

# GROWING IN NUMBER, PATRIOT GROUPS POSE CONTINUED THREAT TO AMERICAN PUBLIC

Two years after the bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, the Patriot Movement that spawned the accused killers continues to flourish on the margins of American political culture. Caught in a glare of attention that followed the crime, casual Patriots have retreated to the sidelines. The groups that remain, and the new ones that have formed, are more strident in their rhetoric and passionate in their commitment.

"Groups that espouse extreme anti-government positions are growing in number and hardening in attitude," says Joe Roy, director of the Southern Poverty Law Center's Klanwatch Project and its Militia Task Force.

Klanwatch began monitoring the Patriot Movement in the early 1990s when researchers discovered veteran racist leaders infiltrating the ranks of the nascent militias. Six months before the Oklahoma City bombing, the Center's Chief Trial Counsel Morris Dees warned Attorney General Janet Reno that the combination of white supremacists and heavily armed militias was a "recipe for disaster." Two months after the bombing, the Militia Task Force reported that 224 militias and support groups were active in 39 states. By the first anniversary of the incident, 809 groups had been identified. Every state in the nation had active organizations.

In its latest study, the Militia Task Force identified 858 Patriot groups that were active in 1996, a six percent increase over the year before. Klanwatch uncovered Patriot activity in all 50 states, with the heaviest concentrations in the Midwest, Southwest and along

## TWO YEARS AFTER SPECIAL REPORT

the Pacific coast. "The Patriot Movement is firmly entrenched in this country," concludes Roy. (See map and list, pages 18-26.)

Surprising, perhaps, is the strengthening of the Patriot Movement in the wake of the outrage that followed the Oklahoma City bombing. After learning about the extremist backgrounds of accused bombers Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, the public realized the threat posed by elements on the far right. Subsequent scrutiny of the paramilitary subculture created a backlash against gun-toting, camouflage-clad militias.

If the American public is less tolerant of extremist elements, the nearly universal anti-government attitude that nurtures the Patriot Movement has, if anything, intensified. There is still a climate of mistrust in which politicians of all parties routinely lambaste the federal government. Large numbers of citizens shun elections. In such an environment, the radical anti-government philosophy preached by the Patriot Movement finds willing recruits.

As the Patriot Movement is growing, its composition is changing. Armed militias previously dominated the ranks. Organizations that follow a separatist agenda — common-law courts, Sovereignty groups and tax resisters — now comprise the fastest growing segment. Though these groups do not appear as violent as armed paramilitary groups, they are no less dangerous. (See story page 10.)

The militias have adopted a less public profile, but they continue to conduct weapons training in preparation for war against the federal government. The militias are also networking across state lines. The American Constitutional Militia Network, an umbrella organization of militia groups in 14 states, has launched an intelligence-gathering network that targets law enforcement, the military and public utilities. (see story page 8.)

Most Patriot followers are law-abiding citizens who join the movement to express their outrage at a government they consider misguided. Their activities remain within the bounds of legitimate, albeit strident, political speech. But these legitimate dissidents support a more radical Patriot underground whose members have been charged with bombings, bank robberies, attempted murder, biological terrorism, illegal weapons' possession, fraud, intimidation of public officials and tax avoidance. (For a complete list of criminal activity attributed to the Patriot Movement in 1996, see page 27)

Many of these terrorists operate in autonomous cells and follow a radical philosophy of religious and

After the bombing, Patriot groups were caught in the public spotlight.



Lester B. Lane/Sygma

# HARDENING IN ATTITUDE

racial separatism. They envision a white Christian nation on the North American continent, and they advocate violence to establish it. Members of such a cell are suspected of bombing an abortion clinic and gay bar in Atlanta in early 1997, federal authorities say. Likewise, the as-yet-unsolved bombing during the 1996 Olympic games remains under suspicion as the work of a religiously motivated terrorist group.

## ENFORCING ANTI-MILITIA LAWS

Federal law enforcement agencies are aggressively combating the terrorism spawned by the Patriot Movement. The FBI, IRS and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms initiated comprehensive investi-

gations and prosecutions of criminal conduct on the far right in 1996. The FBI is hiring hundreds of agents to staff its counter-terrorism program.

In its 1996 report *False Patriots*, The Militia Task Force issued a number of recommendations to protect democratic institutions from the threat of anti-government extremists. Despite the clear evidence of the threat posed by the Patriot Movement, little progress has been made in implementing them. Among the suggestions included in the 1996 report were:

- States should prosecute those who violate anti-militia and anti-paramilitary training statutes. States without laws should enact them. (See accompanying story, page 6.)

**The militias have adopted a less public profile, but they continue to conduct weapons training in preparation for war against the federal government.**

## An Army of Terror

When an outfit calling itself the Army of God sent a letter to news organizations claiming credit for bombings at an Atlanta gay bar and abortion clinic, attention focused on a shadowy anti-abortion group that operated under that name in the 1980s. But a Klanwatch analysis suggests that the anti-government and Christian Identity language used in the

communiqué more likely ties the authors (and presumed bombers) to the radical Patriot underground. They may be Phineas Priests who justify criminal actions to establish "God's Law" on earth. The Phineas credo considers abortion and homosexuality crimes against God's law, punishable by death.

Here are recreations of excerpts from the letter:

The second device was aimed at agents of the so-called Federal Government, i.e., A.T.F., F.B.I. Marshal's, etc. We declared and will wage total war on the ungodly Communist regime in New York and your legislative-bureaucratic lackey's in Washington. It is you who are responsible and preside over the murder of children and issue the policy of ungodly perversion that's destroying our people.

The attack in Midtown was aimed at the Sodomite Bar ... We will target sodomites, their organizations and all those who push thier agenda.

Death to the New World Order

**Emergency personnel treat an ATF agent injured in a bomb blast at an Atlanta abortion clinic.**



John Spinelli/Atlanta Constitution

• A federal statute should be enacted that prohibits private militias not specifically authorized by the states.

• Federal legislation should be passed regulating the dissemination of dangerous substances used to make weapons of mass destruction.

• The Department of Defense should prohibit military personnel from involvement in unauthorized militia activity.

A few of the recommendations have resulted in action. The Militia Task Force urged law enforcement of-

ficials nationwide to share information on anti-government terrorists. Such networks have been created. The Task Force recommended that churches challenge the racist theology of Christian Identity. A program in the United Methodist Church is tackling the issue in rural areas of Kansas and Oklahoma.

"The public and law enforcement are beginning to take the threat of domestic terrorism seriously, but stronger action is needed to protect American citizens from danger," Roy concluded. ▲

## Bringing the Fight Home

State governments can play a role in fighting domestic terrorism by passing anti-militia laws or enforcing such statutes already on the books. Though 24 states currently have anti-militia laws, only one state, Texas, has ever challenged a group for violating these laws. Some state and local officials claim that the laws have constitutional defects.

Southern Poverty Law Center Chief Trial Counsel Morris Dees and staff attorney Ellen Bowden argue that anti-militia laws do not violate constitutional guarantees of free speech and association. In an article in a forthcoming issue of the *Gonzaga Law Review*, Dees and Bowden note that such laws do not prohibit militia members from speaking out against the government.

Only their "conduct" — operating a private military organization that threatens public safety — is proscribed.

Likewise, they point out that anti-militia laws do not restrain militia members from meeting together as a group except when they are functioning as a military unit. "The outright ban on

militias is the only way to prevent the militias that are preparing to commit violence from actually doing so," they argue.

Dees and Bowden also dismiss arguments that anti-militia laws are unduly vague. "Anti-militia laws reasonably inform the average person that his or her conduct is prohibited," they write. In an effort to clarify the prohibitions, the Center attorneys crafted a model anti-militia statute that precisely defines unauthorized military organizations and exempts units set up by schools or colleges.

"In an age increasingly populated by militia groups that train to commit violence, states should seriously think about using their anti-militia laws to shut down militias," they conclude. "States without these laws should enact them, because they are the best route to prevent the violence that militias can cause before it occurs."

For more information or for a copy of the model statute, write to the Militia Task Force at 400 Washington Ave., Montgomery, Ala., 36104, or visit our web site at [www.splcenter.org](http://www.splcenter.org). ▲

# ON-LINE, PLUGGED-IN

## THE INTERNET IS A STOREHOUSE OF INFORMATION FOR INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS

Like their allies in the white supremacist movement, Patriot groups use the Internet to broadcast their message and seek recruits among alienated Americans. Extremists are publicizing upcoming events on their World Wide Web pages, peddling conspiracy theories in Usenet discussion groups and sharing intelligence through electronic mail networks.

"It's imperative that law enforcement understand the theories being preached by Patriot leaders, because this rhetoric will influence groups in their communities," says Klanwatch Director Joe Roy. "Monitoring the Internet is an economical and effective way for intelligence officers to remain current on the extremist world."

The World Wide Web is the most easily accessible gateway to Patriot activity on the Internet. Patriot groups are launching graphically sophisticated Web sites that contain a storehouse of material on their philosophy and tactics. They typically use the Web site to issue "alerts" about events in the news or remind members about important dates and anniversaries. The Patriot "Webmaster" will often reveal the true political sympathies of his group by linking his page to

those of other extremist groups. "A militia group may deny that it has racist ties, but nevertheless provide a link to a neo-Nazi or Christian Identity site," says Roy.

Discussion groups feature more esoteric material. Here the seeds of conspiracy theories are planted, and Patriot propagandists spin the day's events. Discussion group participants will occasionally disclose confidential information that is useful to law enforcement.

Listserves are a more private form of communication. Access to these e-mailed newsletters is typically by subscription, and participants must be approved by the listserv manager. Once plugged in, however, the intelligence officer can often obtain useful information about activities in his jurisdiction.

Here are some examples, among the hundreds now operating, of easily accessible Web sites and newsgroups:

### WEB SITES

**American Patriot Network** ([www.users.aol.com/dritus/apn.htm](http://www.users.aol.com/dritus/apn.htm)) A storehouse of Patriot literature and many links to other sites.

**Logoplex** ([www.logoplex.com](http://www.logoplex.com)) A vast array of Patriot material and links to important extremist groups like Scriptures for America and the Militia of Montana.

**U.S. Militia**. ([www.ipser.com/usmilitia/](http://www.ipser.com/usmilitia/)) Background on the militia movement, a comprehensive directory of paramilitary groups and links to Patriot Web sites.

**Minuteman Press** ([www.afn.org/~mpress/toc/](http://www.afn.org/~mpress/toc/)) News, commentary and background on the militia movement.

**Sovereignty** ([www.worldtrans.org/sovereignty.html](http://www.worldtrans.org/sovereignty.html)) Resources and links for individuals who claim they are not subject to federal laws.

**Republic of Texas** ([www.flash.net/~robertk/](http://www.flash.net/~robertk/)) Updates on the group that claims Texas is an independent nation.

### NEWSGROUPS

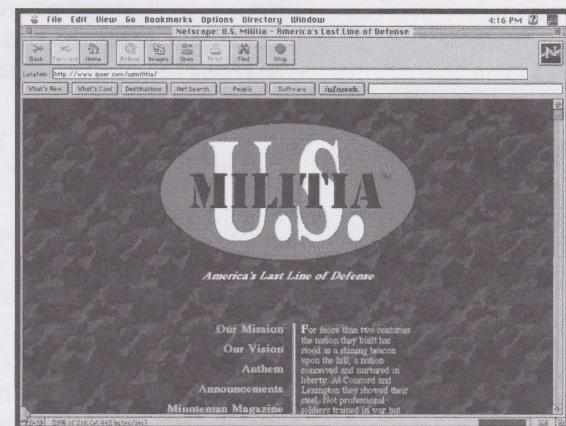
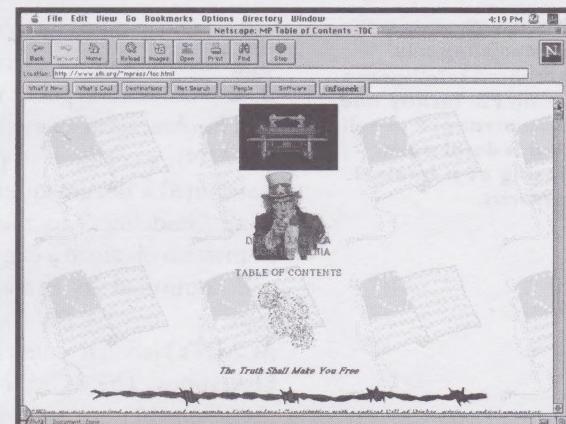
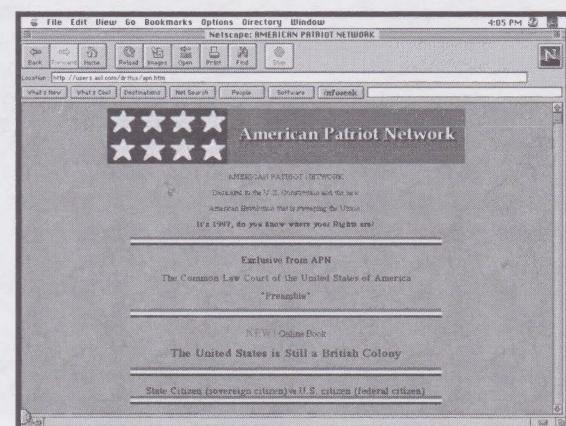
**misc.activism.militia**. Discussion about paramilitary groups.

**alt.conspiracy**. The latest theories of the paranoid right.

**alt.sovereignty**. "Freemen" declare their independence from the government.

**talk.politics.guns**. Second Amendment rhetoric laced with advice on weapons.

**alt.survivalism**. Going off the grid? Here's how.



# PREPARING FOR WAR

## MILITIA GROUPS GATHER INTELLIGENCE ON PUBLIC FACILITIES

TWO YEARS AFTER  
SPECIAL REPORT



A West Virginia militia leader allegedly gathered intelligence on an FBI facility and then arranged to sell it to a federal agent posing as a foreign terrorist.

A national militia network has developed a comprehensive plan for spying on the military, law enforcement and public utilities in the United States.

The American Constitutional Militia Network (ACMN), a coalition of paramilitary organizations, distributed a document entitled "Intelligence Gathering Guidelines" to members in early February. Klanwatch obtained a copy from confidential sources and confirmed its authenticity. The "Guidelines" were sent out by Bill Lacy, who styles himself as ACMN's National Commander, Central Intelligence Operations. The ACMN includes militia organizations from 14 states, primarily in the South and Midwest. Lacy is associated with the 1st Kansas Militia.

The ACMN initiative follows similar covert operations launched by other anti-government groups in the last two years.

"Some of these militia groups consider themselves at war with our government. They see this country's democratic institutions as their enemy," says Joe Roy, director of Klanwatch and its Militia Task Force.

Roy says the content of the ACMN document challenges the militia movement's claim that it seeks to protect the constitutional rights of citizens. "This document encourages militia members to collect sensitive and confidential information that can be used to attack American institutions. It represents a real threat

to public safety and security," he says.

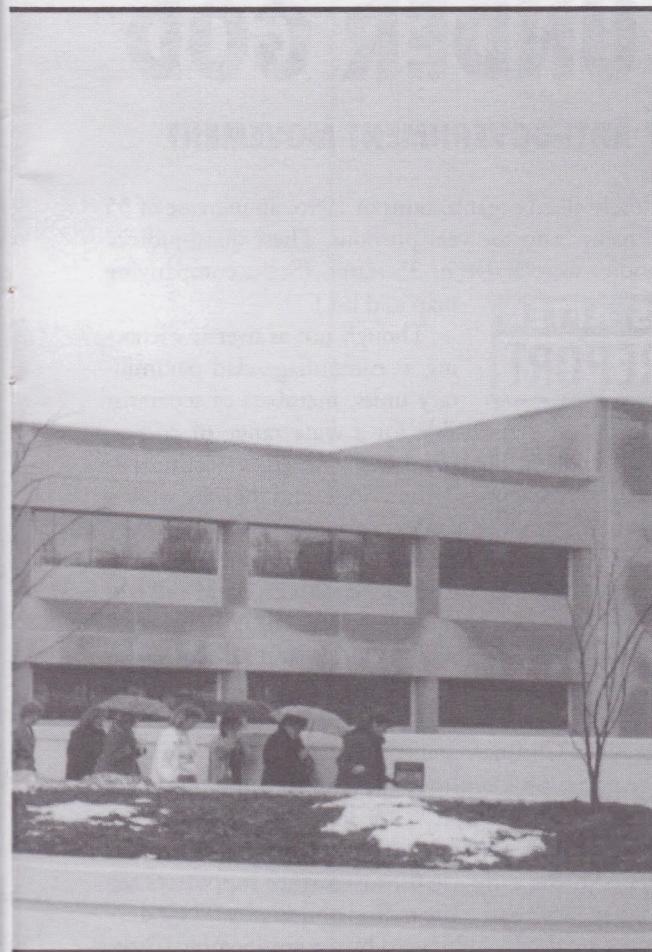
ACMN was formed out of the remnants of the Tri-States Militia which fell apart in 1996 after reports that its leader was an FBI informant. The ACMN includes militias from Alabama, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Mississippi, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee and Texas.

This broad-based militia organization demonstrates the threat posed by the Patriot Movement, says Roy. A multi-state paramilitary group can mobilize large numbers of people and deploy them to standoffs and confrontations throughout the United States. Militia members from a number of states were present during tense situations involving Patriot sympathizers in Louisiana and Mississippi.

These far-flung militia groups communicate via fax, short-wave radio and, increasingly, the Internet. Encrypted electronic mail and news groups offer ample opportunities to share information gathered through spying.

### TARGETING UTILITIES

The ACMN document outlines "passive" and "overt" methods of intelligence gathering. The former includes talking with military and law enforcement personnel, observing troop activities and scrutinizing



media reports. Overt intelligence gathering involves the development of "assets" who can provide sensitive information about targeted facilities or organizations.

"Your [unit intelligence officer] may ask your assets to seek out certain professionals to befriend, and through this friendship extract critical information. He may ask your assets to do a physical recon of various facilities in order to determine floor plans for security procedures," the document states.

More ominously, the Guidelines encourage militia members who work for gas, electric, telephone or water services to disclose company security procedures to militia leaders. Such members can also "target key installations for the purposes of *harassment, disruption, and disabling* (emphasis added) of enemy communications, water supplies, fuel supplies, and make occupation by these enemy troops more difficult," the document states.

Techniques for reporting information to the militia's "Intelligence Committee" are detailed. Militia members are encouraged to use the acronym SALUTE — (Size, Activity, Location, Unit, Time, Equipment) — in determining what information to collect.

#### BREAK HERE

The ACMN project is the latest intelligence-gathering mission launched by Patriot groups as part of

their self-declared war against the government. In 1995, the Militia of Montana, Aryan Nations and the Tri-States Militia initiated surveillance of government buildings, civil rights groups and the media. The groups issued similar forms to their members and directed them to begin reconnaissance operations.

Last year, the Militia of Montana began collecting information on elected officials and law enforcement agents under the pretense of exposing their involvement in drug importation and distribution. The project, carried out jointly with a New Hampshire militia group, is called the Un-American Activities Intelligence Committee.

The 1996 arrests of militia members in Arizona and West Virginia provided further evidence of covert spying. The Arizona group Viper Team videotaped buildings housing federal law enforcement agencies and other government offices in Phoenix. In West Virginia, James Rogers allegedly photographed blueprints of an FBI facility in Clarksburg and furnished them to Raymond Looker, the leader of the West Virginia Mountaineer Militia leader. Looker allegedly agreed to sell the documents to an FBI agent posing as a representative of a Middle Eastern terrorist organization.

"Who winds up with this information? That's the real danger of these rogue operations," says Roy. "These networks could convey sensitive material to domestic or foreign terrorists. Such detailed intelligence would be vital to a successful strike — ensuring maximum target damage and casualties while minimizing the risk to the terrorists." ▲

Federal agents remove explosives from the residence of a Viper Team member. The Arizona-based group videotaped law enforcement offices.



AP/Wide World Photos

# SOVEREIGN NATION, UNDER GOD

## RELIGIOUS SEPARATISTS ARE FASTEST-GROWING SEGMENT OF ANTI-GOVERNMENT MOVEMENT

Timothy McVeigh's alleged ties to paramilitary and neo-Nazi groups raised a nationwide alarm about the dangers of the growing militia movement. Though not as widely known as the militias, the radical movement that spawned Terry Nichols, McVeigh's co-defendant, poses an equally serious threat.

Nichols subscribes to a violent philosophy of religious separatism espoused by common-law advocates, self-styled sovereign citizens and tax resisters. These separatist groups make up the fastest growing segment of the anti-government Patriot Movement today.

Separatists call for a radical restructuring of American society. Basing their theories on fanciful interpretations of religious and legal texts, they reject the validity of the federal government, the judiciary and the financial system.

In their place, they attempt to create an autonomous legal and financial system complete with governmental authorities, money and courts. Some separatist groups have forged strategic links with militia units, designating them as the law enforcement arm of their self-proclaimed governments.

Klanwatch's Militia Task Force identified 858 anti-government extremist organizations that were active in 1996. Hundreds of these groups follow separatist doctrines.

Common-law courts, the most dangerous practitioners of the separatist agenda, are on the rise. Klanwatch identified 131 active common-law courts and

closely allied organizations in 1996, an increase of 35 percent from the year previous. These quasi-judicial bodies were active in 35 states. (See accompanying map and list.)

Though not as overtly menacing as camouflage-clad paramilitary units, members of separatist

groups are responsible for a wide range of crimes, many violent. Their disdain for American institutions leads to frequent confrontations, and they are willing to use force when conflicts arise. Sovereigns, as they often refer to themselves, have been accused of assault, battery, intimidation of public officials, fraud and failure to pay taxes. (For examples, see the criminal cases in California, Colorado, Florida and Wisconsin in "Patriot Crimes — 1996," page 27.)

Many separatists envision a world that is reserved for white Christians, called "Freemen." Their white supremacist philosophy is hardly surprising given the movement's pedigree. While militias grew from public outrage at gun control bills and law enforcement sieges in the early 1990s, sovereignty supporters tap into an older and more radical philosophy. Their doctrines are deeply influenced by the anti-Semitic Christian Identity religion and the Posse Comitatus terrorist organization, which emerged in the 1970s amid the farm crisis in the Midwest.

Nichols' actions are typical of those who adhere to this movement. In 1993, Nichols filed an affidavit of sovereignty and declared his freedom from the federal government. He claimed in open court that the judicial system has no control over him. He attempted to pay off his credit card bills with bogus money orders he purchased from a Wisconsin-based sovereignty outfit.

"It is tempting to dismiss the threat posed by individuals who are part of the separatist movement," says Klanwatch Director Joe Roy. "They don't romp through the wilderness armed with automatic weapons. Instead, they research obscure legal texts and make incoherent philosophical arguments. They seem weird, but harmless."

But separatists are arguably the most dangerous elements in the anti-government movement today. "These are the true believers who are committed to the cause for the long haul. They'll commit crimes to advance their agenda and use violence when they deem it necessary. They do not fear the police. The prospect of jail time does not deter them," Roy says.

### TWO YEARS AFTER SPECIAL REPORT

Elizabeth Broderick's bogus check scheme earned her a 16-year prison sentence. Broderick was a disciple of Montana Freemen leader LeRoy Schweitzer.

Ricardo DeAratanha/L.A. Times



## The Sovereign Nation

The so-called common-law courts are the most radical and confrontational segment of the separatist movement. Claiming many of the powers of the American legal system, these quasi-judicial organizations resolve disputes among "Freemen" and take action against authorities who have purportedly trampled on a sovereign citizen's rights. These renegade groups often file invalid liens against individuals who oppose them, a practice called "paper terrorism." Common-law court members have threatened, intimidated, assaulted and conspired to kill public officials.

Common-law courts operate independently and under a wide variety of names. A few of the more common ones are "Our One Supreme Court," and "We The People." Others have obscure names, like the common-law court in Schenectady County, N.Y., that calls itself the Truth Fellowship Order of Protection. Some courts identify themselves only by the county or city in which they are located.

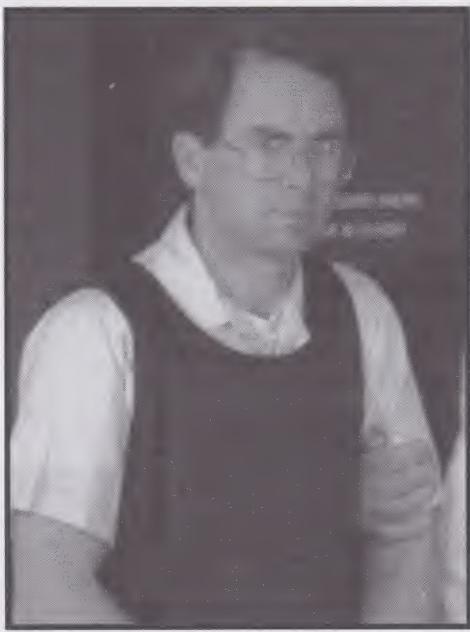
Common-law courts are only one element in this amorphous but fast-growing separatist movement. Other elements include:

**The American Jural Society.** This California-based organization teaches members how to supposedly insulate themselves from legal requirements such as paying income taxes or following traffic regulations. Klanwatch identified 11 active chapters in 1996, seven of which sponsored common-law court activity. The organization claimed affiliates in 22 states in a 1996 magazine article.

**The Fully Informed Jury Association.** Often referred to as jury nullifiers, this group argues that jurors in a criminal trial have a right to judge the constitutionality of the law as well as the guilt or innocence of a person charged with violating it. FIJA claims 2,000 members in 50 states.

**Financial Schemers.** More con artists than true believers, these individuals issue worthless checks and money orders purportedly backed by bogus liens against individuals, corporations and government agencies. These frauds have netted tens of millions of dollars, a portion of which has been plowed back into the anti-government movement.

Many of these scams can be traced back to Montana Freeman LeRoy Schweitzer who taught his bogus check scheme to thousands of people. Elizabeth Broderick, one of his most notable students, was sentenced



**Accused Oklahoma City bomber Terry Nichols declared his sovereign status and claimed he was free from government jurisdiction.**

to 16 years in jail for conspiracy, fraud and money laundering.

**The Republic of Texas.** This group claims that the Lone Star State was never legally annexed into the United States and that it is the de facto government of an independent Texas "nation." Republic of Texas has established common-law courts throughout the state. A faction of the group was involved in a stand-off with law enforcement in late April.

The separatist movement has spawned a cottage industry that markets products and services to citizens who want to shirk their legal and financial obligations. Patriot publications, short-wave broadcasts and Internet sites advertise tax

avoidance strategies, bogus license plates and "pure trusts" that hide income from the government.

## The Power of the Posse

The separatist movement is rooted in a violent white supremacist organization that flourished in the United States a generation ago. Founded in 1969 in California, the Posse Comitatus attracted wide support in the Midwest during the agricultural crisis of the 1970s and 1980s. As crop prices plunged, Posse Comitatus leaders urged farmers to resist foreclosure by any means necessary — including deadly force. A leading advocate of violent resistance was Posse Comitatus member Gordon Kahl, a tax resister from North Dakota who murdered two U.S. Marshals in May 1983, and was killed in a fiery shoot-out with law enforcement officers one month later.

Openly displaying their Posse roots, a group of common-law court activists chose June 3, 1995, the twelfth anniversary of Kahl's death, to convene a national common-law grand jury in Wichita, Kan. Many of the participants in the convocation were longtime Posse Comitatus adherents, and their resolutions were grounded in Posse beliefs.

Posse philosophy is based on a tortured reading of the Bible, the Magna Carta, the Articles of Confederation and the Bill of Rights. Underlying the doctrines are the racist and anti-Semitic beliefs of the Christian Identity religion.

In the 1970s and 1980s, Posse leaders claimed that the Federal Reserve was a creature of what they called "international Jewish banksters" who were seeking to enslave America under a "one-world Communist tyranny"; that the United States Constitution had

**Common-law court members have been accused of numerous crimes, many violent.**

# Tell-Tale Signs Of A Sovereign Citizen

**L**aw enforcement officers should learn to recognize sovereign citizens and have a plan to deal with them during arrests, traffic stops, service of legal documents or court proceedings. Failure to do so can result in injury or death since many of these individuals are well-armed and prone to violence if they feel their rights are being trampled. Note these characteristics of a sovereign citizen:

- Separates his middle and last name with a comma or colon, e.g., "John Michael, Doe" or "Joseph Peter: Smith."
- Places his thumbprint or includes the phrases "pro se" (for himself) or "sui juris" (of his own jurisdiction) when signing a legal document.
- Refuses to carry a driver's license because he claims a "right to travel" or adds the phrase, "All rights reserved, without prejudice, UCC 1-207" to the signature on his license.
- Drives with no license plate, a homemade one or one issued by a bogus, foreign-sounding government.

**The separatist movement is firmly grounded in Posse Comitatus beliefs.**

been suspended by the War and Emergency Powers Act of 1933 and that the income tax and other federal, state and local taxes were not only illegal, but violations of "God's law" as recorded in the Bible.

Posse members were taught ways to achieve "sovereign status" to immunize themselves from the jurisdiction of the state and its courts.

After filing an affidavit with the county court to declare their sovereignty, Posse members would establish their own grand jury and courts under common law. The Posse, operating as a militia, was empowered to enforce

rulings, judgments and warrants of their common law court and to defend sovereign rights from agencies or officers of the "corporate state," i.e., federal agencies and state and local police authorities.

Despite convictions, prison sentences, bloodshed and death, the seeds of insurrection that Posse leaders sowed during the 1980s have taken root and are growing in the separatist movement today. Common-law courts and other separatist movements are firmly grounded in Posse Comitatus beliefs.

A number of common-law court activists preach theories rooted in Posse Comitatus ideas, including Eugene Schroder (see story, page 15) and Darrell Frech, who presides over an Oklahoma common-law court. Montana Freemen LeRoy Schweitzer, Rodney Skurdal, Daniel Peterson and

- Challenges the jurisdiction of a law enforcement officer or court official during a confrontation.
- Refuses to acknowledge questions directed to him during a traffic stop or court proceeding.
- Refers to his state as a "republic" or calls his zip code a "postal code."
- Claims that a court has no authority over him because the flag in the chambers has yellow fringe on it, thus making it an "admiralty court" illegally operating on land.
- Files a document at the courthouse called an "asseveration" that purportedly removes him from federal and state jurisdiction.
- Files an "allodial" title that supposedly frees him from property taxes.
- Posts a notice that his property is not under federal jurisdiction.
- Refers to American currency as "FRNs" — Federal Reserve Notes.
- Bases his legal arguments on biblical passages, especially from the Old Testament.

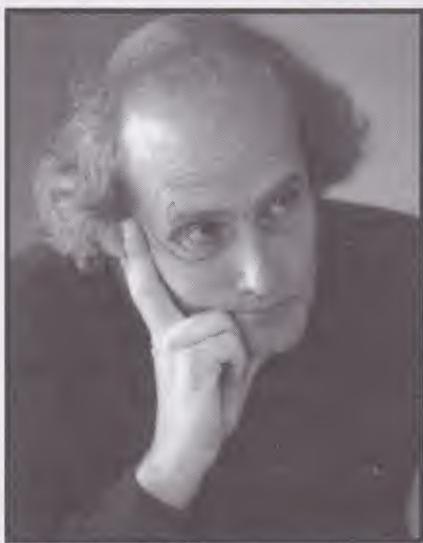
Russell Landers based their bogus check-writing scheme on Posse ideas. (They are now facing federal fraud charges.) James Wickstrom, who heads up a Patriot group called Fed-Up American, was a leader in the Posse.

The separatist philosophy is shot through with the teachings of the Christian Identity religion, which holds that white northern Europeans are the true children of God, blacks are subhuman "mud people," and Jews are the offspring of Satan. Echoing these beliefs, common-law theorists assert the primacy of white Christian men and reject those Constitutional amendments that extend the benefits of citizenship to blacks.

The 1982 Nehemiah Township Charter and Common Law Contract — signed by such Identity luminaries as Aryan Nations leader Richard Butler and Klan Imperial Wizard Thom Robb — contained language that was echoed in the pronouncements of the Montana Freemen over a decade later. The Nehemiah Township Charter purported to set up an autonomous mini-nation of "white freemen" and described an elaborate legal system to resolve differences among members. "No member shall be bound by state, municipal, local or federal statute, ordinance, usage, or taxation except as he himself may will," the charter states. Residents of the Freemen's Justus Township near Jordan, Mont., espoused similar beliefs.

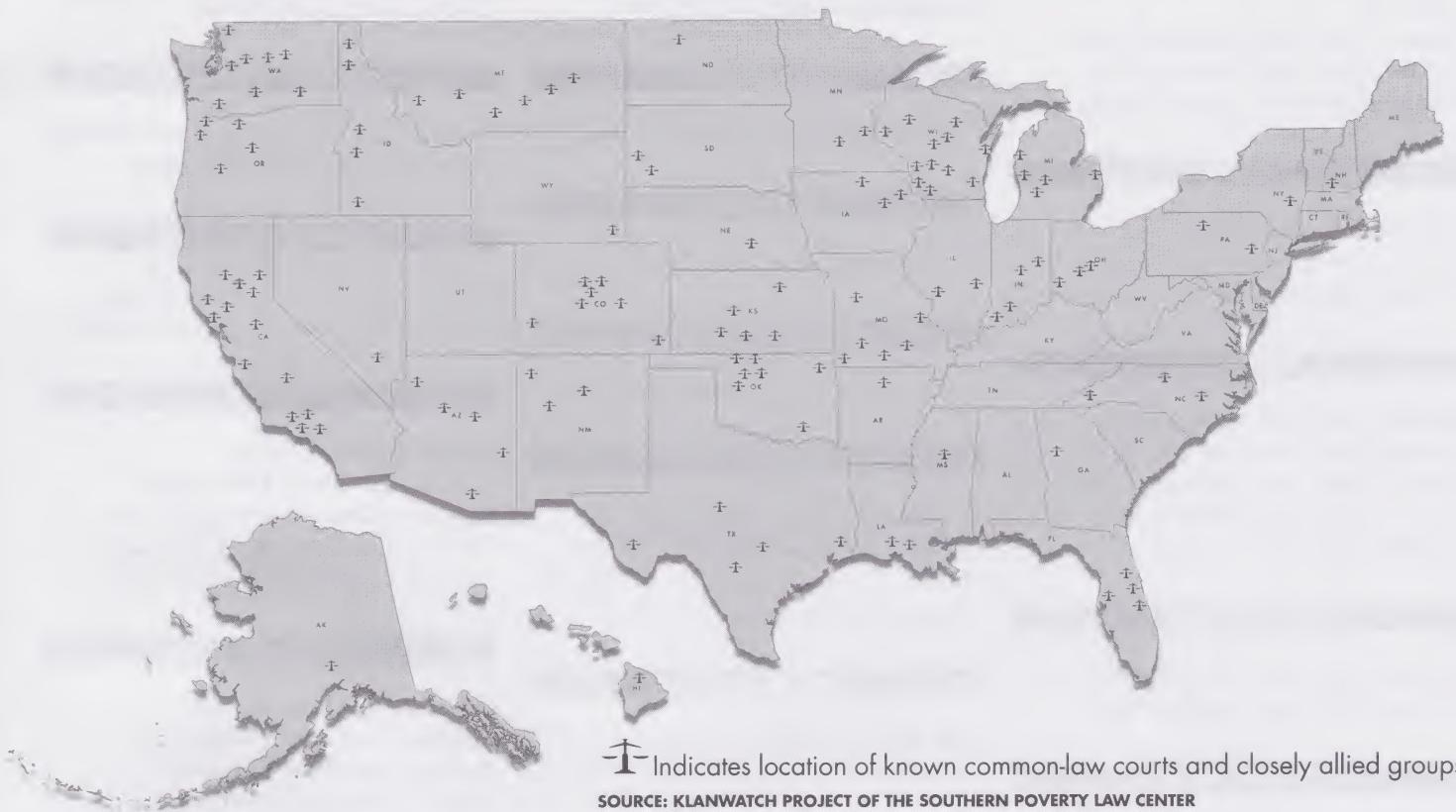
"The separatist movement represents a significant threat for violence. Its danger should not be underestimated," says Roy. ▲

Tim Fischer/Midland (Tx.) Reporter Telegram



**Republic of Texas "ambassador" Rick McLaren held law enforcement officers at bay for a week before leaving his heavily armed compound.**

# COMMON-LAW COURTS IN THE U.S. IN 1996



Indicates location of known common-law courts and closely allied groups.

SOURCE: KLANWATCH PROJECT OF THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER

Klanwatch has identified 131 common-law courts in 35 states. Common-law courts are quasi-judicial bodies that claim the power to issue legal rulings such as liens and arrest warrants. Generally, common-law courts identify themselves only by the county or, occasionally, the city in which they operate. A complete breakdown and listing by state follows:

## ALASKA

Common Law Court, Anchorage

## ARIZONA

Common Law Court, Graham County  
Common Law Court, Maricopa County  
Common Law Court, Mohave County  
Common Law Court, Payson  
Pima County Grand Jury, Tucson

## ARKANSAS

We the People, Yellville

## CALIFORNIA

Butte County Jural Society, Butte County  
Common Law Court, Butte County  
Jural Society, Canoga Park  
Sovereign Patriot Group, Chico  
Common Law Court, El Dorado County  
Common Law Court, Garden Grove

Common Law Court, Kern County  
Common Law Court, Los Angeles County  
Juris Christian Assembly, Modesto  
Rancho Simi Jural Society, Rancho Simi  
Northern California House of Common  
Law, San Rafael

Common Law Court, Solano County  
Common Law Court, Stanislaus County  
Tamalpais Jural Society, Tamalpais

## COLORADO

Common Law Court, Arapahoe County  
Common Law Court, Baca County  
Common Law Liberty, Denver  
Common Law Court, Denver  
Common Law Court, El Paso County  
Common Law Court, Jefferson County  
Common Law Court, Montrose County

## FLORIDA

Common Law Court, Orange County  
Restoration Township Jural Society, Palm Bay

Constitutional Court of We the People,  
Tampa

Common Law Court, Volusia County

## GEORGIA

Common Law Court, Cobb County

## HAWAII

Common Law Court, Honolulu

## IDAHO

Common Law Court, Ada County  
Idaho Sovereignty Association, Boise  
Common Law Court, Boundary County  
Common Law Court, Kootenai County  
Common Law Court, Lewis County

## ILLINOIS

Common Law Court, Clark County  
Common Law Court, Madison County

## INDIANA

Christian Common Law Foundation,  
Boonville  
Common Law Court, Delaware County  
Common Law Court, Marion County  
Common Law Court, Warrick County

## IOWA

Common Law Court, Delaware County  
Common Law Court, Floyd County  
Common Law Court, Jackson County

## KANSAS

Common Law Court, Butler County  
Common Law Court, Rice County  
Common Law Court, Sedgwick County  
Common Law Court, Stafford County  
Common Law Court, St. Mary's

## LOUISIANA

Common Law Defense Fund, Lafayette  
Common Law Court, Lafayette Parish

## MICHIGAN

Common Law Court, Jenison  
Common Law Court, Manistee County  
Common Law Court, Ottawa County  
Michigan Common Law Venue Supreme  
Court, Ottawa County  
Common Law Court, Sanilac County

## MINNESOTA

Common Law Court, Hennepin County  
Common Law Court, St. Paul

## MISSISSIPPI

Common Law Court, unspecified location

## MISSOURI

Common Law Court, Clay County  
Common Law Court, Dade County  
George Gordon's School of Common Law, Isabella  
Common Law Court, Jefferson County  
Common Law Court, McDonald County  
Common Law Court, Texas County

## MONTANA

Bozeman Freemen, Bozeman  
Common Law Court, Cascade County

Common Law Court, Garfield County  
Montana Freemen/Justus Township, Jordan  
Common Law Court, Musselshell County  
Common Law Court, Ravalli County

## NEBRASKA

Common Law Court, Hamilton County

## NEVADA

Common Law Court, Clark County

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

Common Law Court, Sullivan County

## NEW MEXICO

Common Law Court, Albuquerque  
Common Law Court, San Juan County  
House of Common Law School for  
Responsible Sovereignty, Santa Fe

## NEW YORK

Truth Fellowship Order of Protection,  
Schenectady

## NORTH CAROLINA

Common Law Court, Franklin  
Common Law Court, Kinston  
Common Law Court, Otto

## NORTH DAKOTA

Common Law Court, Douglas

## OHIO

Common Law Court, Central Ohio  
Common Law Court, Columbus  
Common Law Court, Southwestern Ohio

## OKLAHOMA

Common Law Court, Alfalfa County  
Common Law Court, Bryan County  
Common Law Court, Cherokee  
Common Law Court, Garfield County  
Common Law Court, Grant County  
Common Law Court, Kay County  
Common Law Court, Kingfisher County

## OREGON

Common Law Court, Lane County

Common Law Court, Multnomah County  
Common Law Court, Prineville  
Jural Society, Portland  
Common Law Court, Stayton

## PENNSYLVANIA

Common Law Court, Montgomery County  
Common Law Court, Potter County

## SOUTH DAKOTA

Common Law Court, Lawrence County  
Common Law Court, Pennington County

## TEXAS

Austin Jural Society, Austin  
Common Law Court, Bexar County  
Republic of Texas Movement, Fort Davis  
Common Law Court, Kendall County  
Common Law Court, Orange County

## WASHINGTON

Common Law Court, Amboy  
Common Law Court, Chelan  
Common Law Court, Ellensburg  
Common Law Court, Moses Lake  
Common Law Court, Seattle  
Common Law Court, Snohomish County  
Common Law Court, Wenatchee  
Common Law Court, Whatcom County

## WISCONSIN

Common Law Court, Columbia County  
Common Law Court, Crawford County  
Common Law Court, Grant County  
Common Law Court, Juneau County  
Common Law Court, LaCrosse County  
Common Law Court, Manitowoc County  
Common Law Court, Milwaukee  
Common Law Court, Portage County  
Common Law Court, Shawano County  
Common Law Court, Taylor County  
Common Law Court, Trempealeau County  
Common Law Court, Waupaca County

## WYOMING

Common Law Court, Laramie County

# MINISTER OF PROPAGANDA

## EUGENE SCHRODER IS A TIRELESS PROMOTER OF COMMON-LAW COURT THEORIES

by CARRIE FLEIDER

Eugene Schroder returned home from veterinary school in the early 1970s as the farmers in his native southeast Colorado were slipping into a devastating recession. Squeezed by increasing fuel costs and declining crop prices, farmers were losing their land to the banks.

Raised in an agricultural family that had known hard times, Schroder took up the cause of his beleaguered neighbors. As the economic crisis worsened, Schroder's philosophy drifted further to the right, and he became a leader of a radical faction within the farm protest movement.

Today, Schroder is a leading theorist in the Patriot Movement. He peddles his hard-line philosophy via cyberspace, the lecture circuit, and his two conspiracy-dominated books. Last year, he was invited to present his extremist views to the Colorado Senate.

The soft-spoken Schroder does not convey the radical image of other Patriot propagandists, but his reasonable veneer belies his political history:

- The farm organization he led in the early 1980s embraced anti-Semitic theories and was influenced by the Posse Comitatus, a paramilitary group responsible for a wave of violence in the 1970s and 1980s.

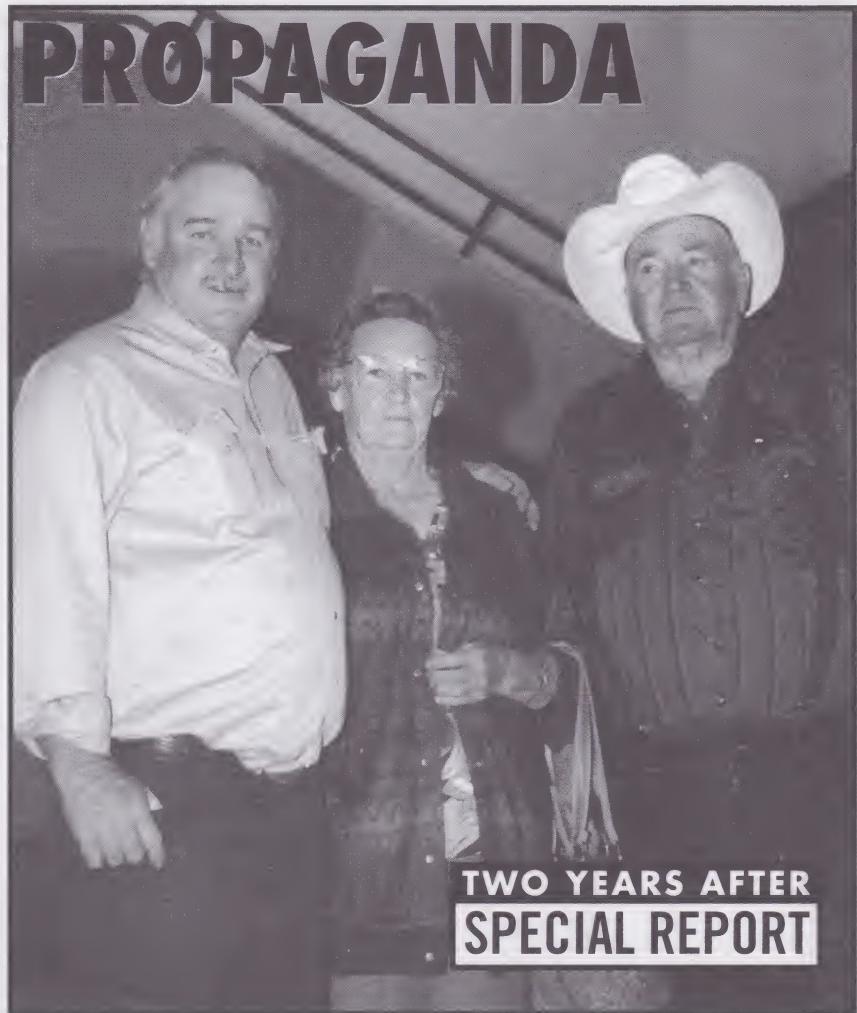
- Schroder has been a key organizer of common-law courts around the nation and played a leading role in the national common-law organizational meeting held in Wichita, Kan., in 1995.

- Schroder has associated with dangerous elements on the far right, like Posse Comitatus leaders Jim Wickstrom (convicted of counterfeiting) and William Potter Gale (convicted of threatening government officials); anti-Semitic publisher Rick Elliot; and United Sovereigns of America organizer Jerry Henson, jailed on fraud charges.

Schroder is a tireless promoter of Patriot theories. Posted on Schroder's Buffalo Creek Press Website last fall were forthcoming appearances at a meeting of the Republic of Texas, a group that claims Texas is an independent nation, and at workshops in Louisiana, Florida, North Carolina, Georgia, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan.

Traveling from coast to coast, he's espoused common-law theories to students at Pat Robertson's Regent University School of Law, gun owners in Pennsylvania and members of the National Independent Truckers Association.

At his public appearances, he promotes his books, *War and Emergency Powers* (1992) and *Constitution: Fact*



TWO YEARS AFTER  
SPECIAL REPORT

*or Fiction* (1995), which attempt to breathe new life into the "martial law" conspiracy theory that has circulated in far-right circles for more than a decade.

Roughly, the theory goes as follows: After becoming president during the Great Depression, Franklin D. Roosevelt invoked powers granted him under the 1917 Trading With The Enemy Act, which allowed Congress to regulate financial transactions during wartime. The Emergency Banking Act, passed later in 1933, gave the president further regulatory powers in times of war or emergency.

Since that time, according to Schroder and many other far-right theorists, a state of emergency remains in force. That means Americans are actually living under martial law, an "unconstitutional dictatorship" of hidden exploiters in Washington, D.C. The Constitution, Schroder claims, has been suspended since 1933.

"We're not anti-government," Schroder said in a release distributed after a national common-law court meeting held in Wichita, Kan. in 1995. "But we do want a government that obeys the constitution ... Our government has been living outside those bounds for 62 years."

### The Birth of a Patriot

Now in his late 40s, Schroder grew up in Campo,

Eugene Schroder (left) was a featured speaker at the 1995 common-law organizing meeting. Also attending were his mother, and father Derral.

ers with Mexico were lowered. In 1971, he graduated from Colorado State University with a veterinary degree. Within a few years of returning to the family farm, Schroder saw the oil embargo force farmers throughout the Midwest into bankruptcy. He and his family started a gasohol plant to take advantage of low grain prices and high fuel prices. But gasohol never caught on, and the plant eventually closed.

In 1977, at the height of the farm crisis, a handful of farmers began meeting at AJ's Station, a gas station in Campo. Among the regulars were Schroder, his father, Derral, and two other farmers, Jerry Wright and Lynn Bitner. From these humble beginnings was born the American Agricultural Movement (AAM). In January 1978, the AAM organized "Tractorcade," a Washington protest of 30,000 angry farmers. In 1979, Schroder put on an "Energy Day" meeting in Kansas.

Over the next decade, AAM went through several stages of organizational development. Following the showy protests of the late 1970s, AAM turned its efforts to the legislative arena, where it sought debt relief for farmers, restraints on corporate agribusiness and increased crop prices.

While the farm economy continued to worsen in the early 1980s, AAM membership became increasingly disenchanted with the group's legislative failures. At the same time, anti-Semitic theories were fracturing the AAM's constituency. "We're preparing right now for the outcome of the battle that's being waged for control of this country by the Rockefeller cartel and the international Jew-Bolshevik cartel," AAM organizer Wright said in a 1982 UPI article. "These Jews are not your Jew who lives next door. He's the international money changer who's been around forever, the ones behind the scene."

In the end, the AAM itself split, with Schroder, Wright and Alvin Jenkins forming AAM Grassroots in an attempt to get back to the raucous demonstrations, militant protests, and confrontational tactics that characterized the headline-grabbing approach of the group's early years. "We sat by a couple of years and studied and watched, but we never went away. We're still here," Schroder told a Colorado newspaper. "We knew conditions were right, that these farm foreclosures had to be made an issue."

Gordon Kahl, a leading figure in the Posse Comitatus, frequently attended AAM rallies during this period and delivered his anti-Semitic message to farmers. Kahl later murdered two U.S. marshals and was



A product of the farm crisis of the 1970s, Eugene Schroder travels extensively.

killed after a four-month man-hunt.

Schroder was evolving during this period, and he began to embrace the tactics of the far right, especially the Posse Comitatus. In March 1982, he traveled to a paramilitary training session held on the farm of a Posse Comitatus member in western Kansas. The three-day event featured training in the use of poison, explosives, knife-fighting and hand-to-hand combat, according to a *Denver Post* report. Among the speakers were Posse leaders William Potter Gale and James Wickstrom, according to news reports.

A short time later, Schroder hosted a course on bomb-making at his father's farm, according to the *Denver Post* report. "At some point, our economy could collapse," Schroder explained to the newspaper. "We wouldn't have a lot of basic knowledge."

During this period, Schroder promoted a Posse Comitatus influenced newspaper called *The Primrose and Cattlemen's Gazette*. Published by Rick Elliott, the weekly tabloid featured anti-Semitic articles such as, "How the Jewish Question Touches the Farm," an article reprinted from Henry Ford's anti-Semitic tract, and carried ads from the National Alliance and other



ively around the United States promoting common-law courts.

neo-Nazi groups. When AAM's newspaper stopped publishing, Schroder urged members to subscribe instead to the *Gazette*. Elliot was later convicted of conning farmers out of \$150,000 in a pyramid scheme.

#### Common-Law Organizer

After a period of relative quiet, Schroder reemerged in 1991. He and Jenkins were among a contingent invited to meet with Iraqi officials trying to drum up opposition to the impending Gulf War. The Iraqis reportedly chose Schroder and Jenkins because of their reputation as militant AAM leaders, according to a news service.

In the following years, Schroder was active in organizing common-law courts. He was a prime mover in the 1995 National Grand Jury meeting held in Wichita. More than 600 people attended that meeting to develop strategies for creating more of the quasi-judicial bodies. Shortly afterward, courts emerged in Iowa, Nebraska and Tennessee.

Since the birth of the court movement in the early 1990s, the courts have defrauded citizens of millions of dollars through property liens and false banknotes;

flooded the court system with bogus documents; and issued threats against judges, officials and individuals they consider enemies. (see story, page 10.)

In 1995, Schroder was a contributing editor of the *50 States Constitutionalist Newspaper*, which was published by the United Sovereigns of America. The Oklahoma-based United Sovereigns sold common-law court documents, the handbook of the Posse Comitatus and the anti-Semitic Protocols of the Elders of Zion. United Sovereigns organizer Jerry Henson was convicted of fraud and sentenced to prison last year.

In 1996, Schroder was invited by the Montana Freemen to help negotiate an end to their eight-week standoff with FBI agents. The standoff began when authorities arrested two Freemen leaders in a fraud scheme and indicted a number of others for related crimes. Among other things, the group allegedly issued bogus checks using imaginary common-law authority.

The activities of Schroder and other common-law proponents are closely linked to militias. For instance, in October 1995, Schroder spoke at a "National Common Law Seminar" held in Mountain Springs, Texas. The event was sponsored by the North Texas Constitutional Militia, a paramilitary outfit that has conducted survival training exercises near the Texas-Oklahoma border.

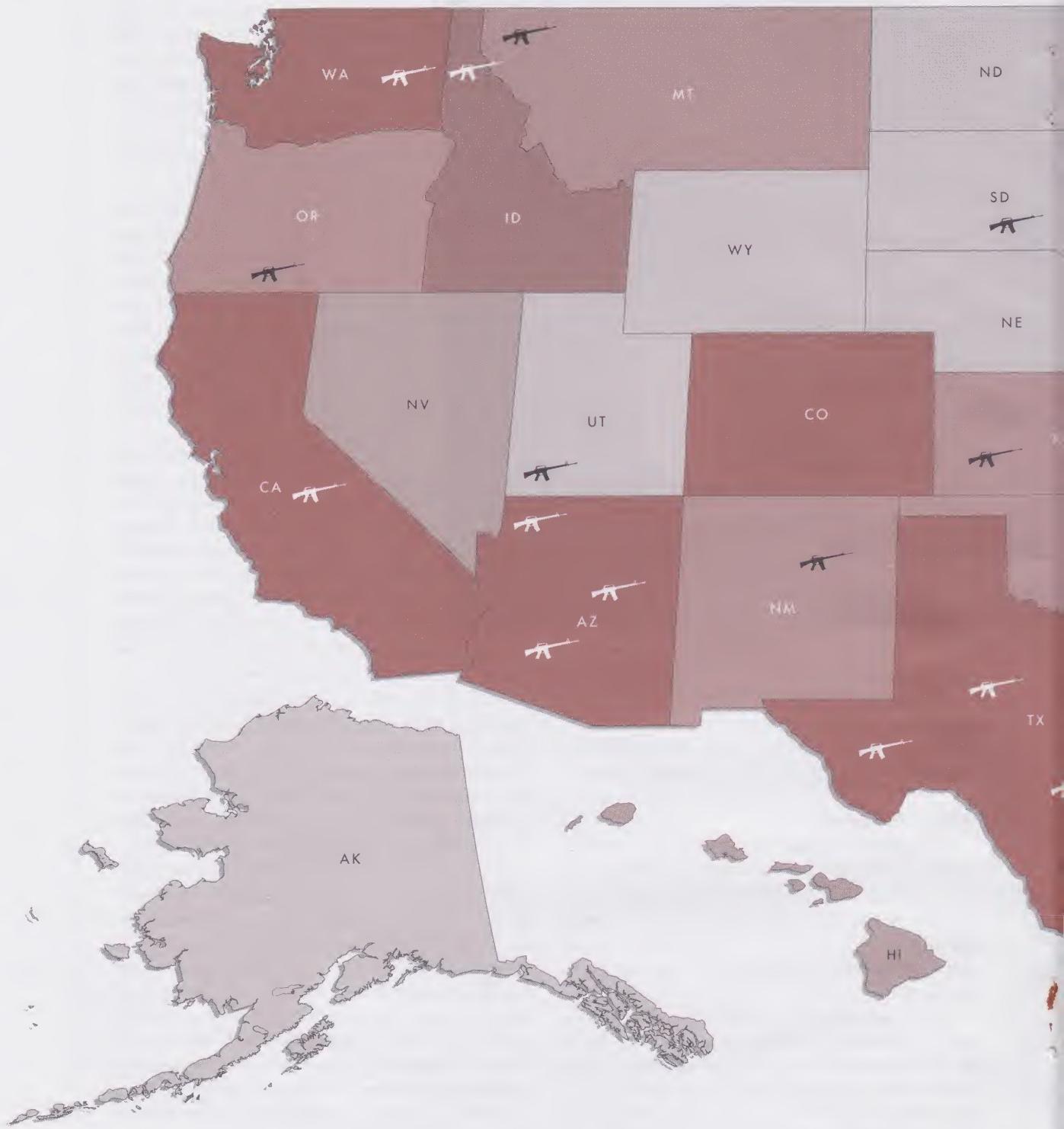
Through his political career, Schroder has tried to maintain a respectable public image. He denies being a racist and disputes claims that he was connected to the Posse or taught bomb-making. Unlike many other common-law activists, he's steered clear of criminal activities.

Today, Schroder is gaining access to more mainstream audiences. His appeal seems to be spreading.

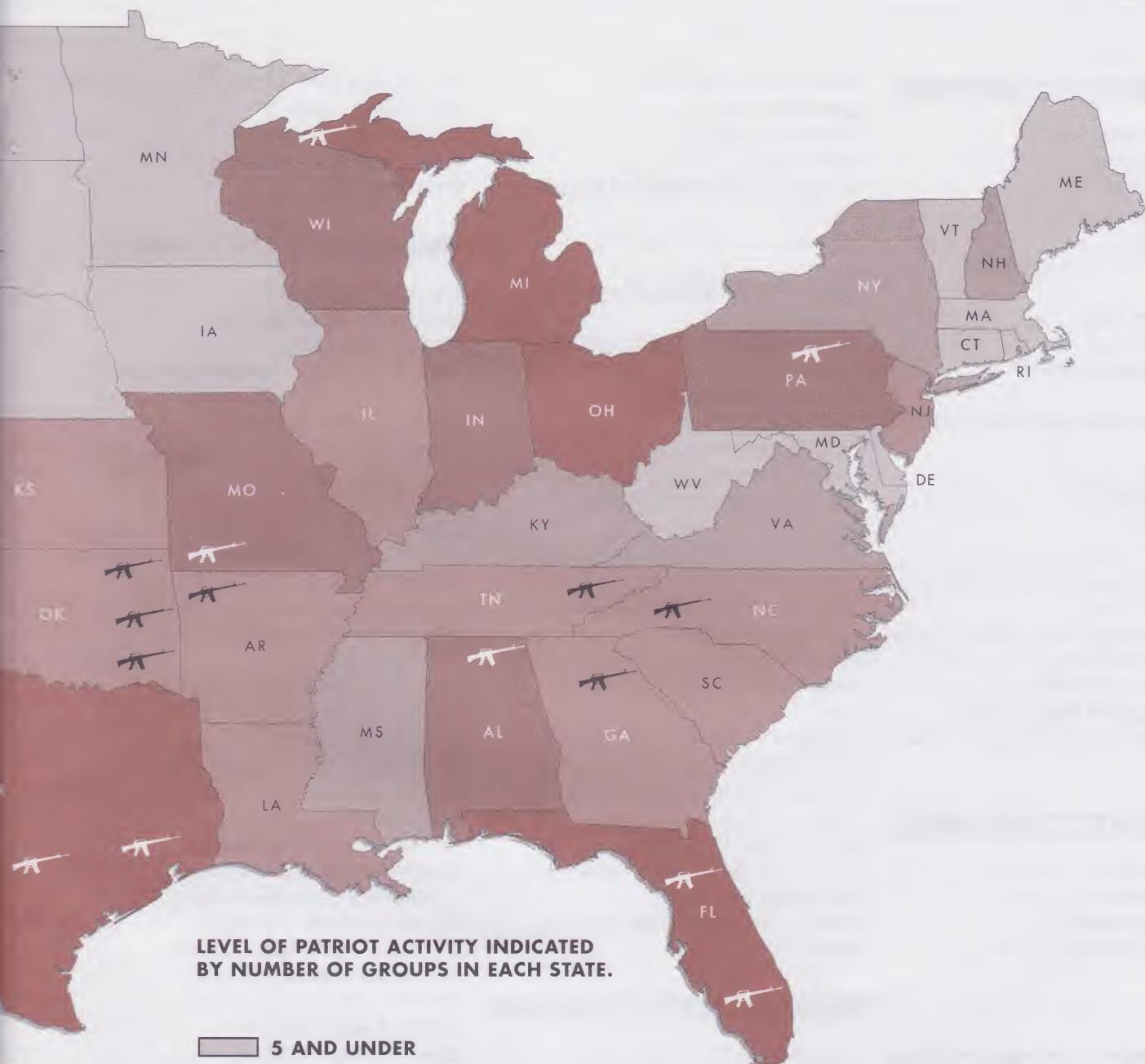
Colorado State Senators Charles Duke and Robert Schaffer, who are sympathetic to right-wing causes, invited Schroder to address a Senate committee last year. Schroder's two-hour presentation focused on his claims that the Constitution has been suspended and that the country is being ruled by a "dictatorship." After the speech, Duke urged members to petition for repeal of the laws Schroder discussed. Similar petitions have been filed by common-law backers in a number of other states, and Schroder's anti-government ideas have found their way into the platforms of the Texas and Arizona GOP.

While Schroder and others like him paint themselves as mere constitutional whistleblowers pursuing legalistic remedies, the reality is that they are skilled Patriot leaders with deep roots in far-right extremism. ▲

# ACTIVE PATRIOT GROUP



# PATRIOTS IN THE U.S. IN 1996



SOURCE: KLANWATCH/MILITIA TASK FORCE

# ACTIVE PATRIOT GROUPS 1996

Klanwatch and its Militia Task Force identified 858 Patriot groups that were active in 1996. Of these groups, 370 were identified as militias. There were 488 Patriot support groups — common-law courts, Identity churches, radio broadcasters, separatists, publishers and others who define themselves as Patriots opposed to the "New World Order" or who advocate or adhere to extreme anti-government doctrines.

The following list was compiled from field reports, Patriot publications, law enforcement sources and news stories. Groups are identified by the city or town where they are located or by county.

## ALABAMA

Gadsden Minutemen, Attalla  
Patriot Freedom Press, Birmingham  
U.S. Taxpayers Party, Cullman  
U.S. Free Militia, Darmanville  
Justice League, Dothan  
Committee to Defend the Constitution, Enterprise  
Jefferson County Militia, Leeds  
Sons of Liberty, Leeds  
Alabama Constitutional Militia, Millbrook  
American Constitutional Militia Network, Millbrook  
American Ranger Association, Mobile  
Council of Conservative Citizens, Mobile  
Sons of Liberty, Mobile  
Shelby County Group 19, Montevallo  
Citizens for Safe Government, Montgomery  
Kitchen Militia, Oxford  
1st Alabama Calvary Regiment Militia, Pinson  
Men of Liberty and Eternity, Plantersville  
Eastern Diamondbacks Militia, Roanoke  
Alabama Unorganized Militia, Wilmer  
Council of Conservative Citizens, unspecified location

## ALASKA

Common Law Court, Anchorage  
U.S. Taxpayers Party, Anchorage  
World Survival Institute, Tok  
Alaska Patriots in Action, unspecified location  
Patriot Party, unspecified location

## ARIZONA

Constitutionalist Party, Camp Verde  
Arizona Sons and Daughters of Liberty, Chino Valley  
Arizona Constitutional Militia, Cornville  
Constitutional Militia of 1791, Cornville  
U.S. Taxpayers Party, Glendale  
Common Law Court, Graham County  
Arizona Patriots, Kingman  
Common Law Court, Maricopa County  
Yavapai County Militia, Mayer

Citizens for America, Mesa  
Common Law Court, Mohave County  
Common Law Court, Payson  
Militia of Arizona, Payson  
American Citizens and Lawmen Association, Phoenix

Americans for Constitutional Action, Phoenix  
America's Destiny National Video Network, Phoenix  
Arizona Constitutional Rights Committee, Phoenix

Arizona Unified Militia, Phoenix  
First Mounted Rangers, Phoenix  
Fourth Battalion, Phoenix  
Militia of Arizona Regulars, Phoenix

Police Against the New World Order, Phoenix

Second Continental Army of the Republic, Phoenix

Unorganized Militia of Arizona, Phoenix  
Viper Team, Phoenix

Unknown Group Name, Pinedale  
Yavapai Sons and Daughters of Liberty, Prescott

Foundation of America, Scottsdale  
Intelligence Service, Showlow  
Citizens Agency for Joint Intelligence, St. Johns

Research Center, St. Johns

United States Constitutional Rangers, Tempe  
Pima County Grand Jury, Tucson  
Sovereign Citizens Movement, Tucson  
Tucson Militia, Tucson

## ARKANSAS

Unorganized Militia Affiliate, Alpena  
Desert Publications, El Dorado  
Washington County Militia, Elkins  
United States Constitutional Rangers, Fort Smith  
Kingdom Identity Ministries, Harrison  
Elohim Kingdom Nation Jacob-Israel, Lake Wedington  
Christian Patriots Defense League, Little Rock  
Council of Conservative Citizens, Little Rock  
Marion County Militia, Marion

U.S. Taxpayers Party, Maumelle  
Citizen Militia, Osage  
Red River Militia, Ozarks  
Present Truth Ministry, Uniontown  
We the People, Yellville

## CALIFORNIA

Kern County Liberty Corps, Bakersfield  
Kern County Militia, Bakersfield  
The Constitution Party, Beverly Hills  
Constitutional Militia of Southern California, Brea  
Butte County Jural Society, Butte County  
Common Law Court, Butte County  
Jural Society, Canoga Park  
Sovereign Patriot Group, Chico  
Free Enterprise Society, Clovis  
Citizens Against Legal Loopholes, Del Mar  
Common Law Court, El Dorado County  
First Amendment Committee, Escondido  
Unorganized Militia of California, Fort Bragg

Unit, Fort Bragg  
Santa Cruz Citizen's Brigade, Freedom  
Common Law Court, Garden Grove  
Americans for Freedom, Hayward  
We the People, Huntington Beach  
Common Law Court, Kern County  
San Diego Militia, La Jolla  
U.S. Taxpayers Party, La Mesa

Christian Jural Society, First House of Delegates, Los Angeles County  
Common Law Court, Los Angeles  
San Joaquin County Militia, Manteca  
Juris Christian Assembly, Modesto  
New Nation USA, Morongo Valley  
Freedom Bound, Nevada City  
Alameda County Free Militia, Oakland  
Ojai Jural Society Militia, Oakview  
Orange County Patriots, Orange County  
Americans for Freedom, Paradise  
Lockwood Publishing, Pasadena  
Sovereign Citizen Resource Center, Pasadena  
El Dorado County Militia, Placerville  
Tulare County Militia, Porterville  
Rancho Simi Jural Society, Rancho Simi  
Americans for Freedom, Redwood City  
Placer County Home Rule Group, Roseville  
Placer County Militia, Roseville

**Americans for Freedom**, Sacramento  
**American Independent Party**, San Bernardino  
**Fully Informed Jury Association**, San Diego  
**Northern California House of Common Law**, San Rafael  
**Santa Clara County Militia**, Santa Clara County  
**Sons of Liberty**, Santa Rosa  
**Common Law Court**, Solano County  
**National Alliance of Christian Militias**, Shingletown  
**Shingletown Militia**, Shingletown  
**Common Law Court**, Stanislaus County  
**Truth In Taxation**, Studio City  
**Talmalpais Jural Society**, Talmalpais  
**Granada Forum**, Tarzana  
**Tehama County Militia**, Tehama County  
**John Birch Society**, unspecified location  
**Pilot Connection Society**, Visalia  
**Americans for Freedom**, Walnut Creek  
**Morongo Militia**, Yucca Valley

## COLORADO

**Common Law Court**, Arapahoe County  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Arvada  
**Common Law Court**, Baca County  
**Boulder County Militia**, Boulder  
**Boulder Patriots**, Boulder  
**Paladin Arms**, Boulder  
**Guardians of American Liberties**, Broomfield  
**Save America Militia**, Calhan  
**American Agricultural Movement**, Campo  
**The Patriot Matchmaker**, Craig  
**Patriots**, Delta  
**Stewards of the Constitution**, Delta County  
**Common Law Liberty**, Denver  
**Common Law Court**, Denver  
**Operation Exposure**, Denver  
**Common Law Court**, El Paso County  
**Colorado Patriots**, Fort Collins  
**Committee to Restore the Constitution**, Fort Collins  
**Financial and Monetary Consultants**, Fort Collins  
**We the People**, Fort Collins  
**Colorado Territorial Service**, Golden  
**Unknown Group Name**, Greeley  
**Common Law Court**, Jefferson County  
**USA Patriot Network**, Johnstown  
**Unknown Group Name**, Lakewood  
**Laporte Church of Christ**, Laporte  
**Unknown Group Name**, Larimer County  
**Longmont Citizens of the Republic**, Longmont  
**National Commodity & Barter Association**, Longmont

**Stewards of the Constitution**, Montrose  
**Common Law Court**, Montrose County  
**Unknown Group Name**, Jefferson County  
**Unknown Group Name**, Park County  
**Unknown Group Name**, Pueblo  
**Unknown Group Name**, Weld County  
**Tenth Amendment Committee**, Wheat Ridge  
**Colorado 1st Light Infantry**, unspecified location

## CONNECTICUT

**Constitutional Revival**, Enfield  
**Military Studies Group**, Manchester  
**Blue Trail Range**, Wallingford  
**Nonmarching Militia**, Wallingford  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Wolcott

## DELAWARE

**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Herrington  
**Delaware Regional Citizens Militia**, Smyrna  
**Delaware Minutemen**, unspecified location

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**Executive Intelligence Service**, Washington  
**Liberty Lobby**, Washington  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Washington

## FLORIDA

**Union County Militia**, Alachu  
**Florida State Militia**, Avon Park  
**Florida State Militia 7th Regiment**, Avon Park  
**Marion County Citizens Militia**, Bellevue  
**Manatee Minuteman Citizens Militia**, Bradenton  
**Constitutional Militia of Florida**, Brevard County  
**U.S. Field Forces National Militia**, Camp Bradley  
**American Citizens Alliance**, Daytona Beach  
**Liberty Group**, Daytona Beach  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Deerfield Beach  
**NAAWP Militia**, Eagle Lake  
**27th Regiment**, Eaton Park  
**Florida State Militia, 1st Florida Regiment**, Englewood  
**Panhandle Patriots, Inc.**, Escambia County  
**Lords of Chaos**, Fort Myers  
**Constitutional Militia of Florida**, Fort Pierce  
**Florida State Militia**, Fort Pierce  
**Okaloosa County Militia**, Fort Walton Beach  
**Panhandle Patriots, Inc.**, Fort Walton Beach  
**Unknown Group Name**, Highlands County  
**Unknown Group Name**, Hillsborough County  
**North Florida Militia**, Jacksonville

**Spartan Militia**, Jacksonville  
**Spartan Legion**, Jacksonville  
**Martin County Militia**, Jensen Beach  
**1st Regiment Florida State Militia/United States Militia**, Key Largo  
**Lee County Militia**, Lee County  
**Operation Freedom**, Maitland  
**19th Regiment**, Melbourne  
**John Birch Society**, Melbourne  
**Privacy Consultants International**, Miami  
**Middleburg Militia**, Middleburg  
**Panhandle Patriots, Inc.**, Navarre  
**American Constitutional Society**, New Smyrna Beach  
**Common Law Court**, Orange County  
**Orange County Common Law Court**, Orange County  
**108th Regiment**, Orlando  
**Christian Jural Society for Florida**, Orlando  
**Florida Unorganized Militia**, Orlando  
**Santa Rosa County Militia**, Pace  
**Santa Rosa Militia**, Pace  
**Brevard County Militia, 19th Regiment**, Palm Bay  
**Constitutional Militia of Florida**, Palm Bay  
**Restoration Township Jural Society**, Palm Bay  
**Unknown Group Name**, Pasco County  
**Alligator Brigade**, Pensacola  
**Escambia County Militia**, Pensacola  
**Unknown Group Name**, Pinellas County  
**Hillsboro County Militia**, Plant City  
**Unknown Group Name**, Polk County  
**People for Sovereignty and Restoration**, Pompano Beach  
**2nd Regiment Ocala**, Silver Springs  
**48th Regiment**, St. Petersburg  
**77th Regiment of Pinellas County**, St. Petersburg  
**Minuteman Press**, Tallahassee  
**55th Regiment**, Tampa  
**82nd Regiment**, Tampa  
**Constitutional Common Law Militia**, Tampa  
**Constitutional Court of We the People**, Tampa  
**Pro Se Litigants of America, Inc.**, Tampa  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**, Tampa  
**Common Law Court**, Volusia County  
**3rd Regiment**, West Palm Beach  
**Constitutional Militia of Florida**, West Palm Beach  
**For the People**, White Springs  
**Central Florida Militia Association**, Winter Haven  
**Northwest Florida Militia**, Youngstown  
**Citizens Intelligence Agency**, unspecified location

**Florida State Militia, 7th Regiment,** unspecified location  
**Republic of Florida**, unspecified location  
**Tenth Amendment Militia**, unspecified location  
**United States Special Forces Militia**, unspecified location

## GEORGIA

**Fully Informed Jury Association**, Atlanta  
**Citizens for a Constitutional Georgia**, Atlanta  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**, Augusta  
**Georgia Militia**, Bolingbroke  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Canton  
**Watchdogs Against Government Abuse**, Cherokee County  
**Common Law Court**, Cobb County  
**Georgia Civilian Militia**, Columbia County  
**Voice of Liberty**, Decatur  
**111th North Georgia Militia**, Dublin  
**Church of the Remnant**, Epworth  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**, Epworth  
**Voice of Liberty Patriots**, Epworth  
**Patriot**, Fayetteville  
**Militia At Large for the Republic of Georgia**, unspecified location

## HAWAII

**Common Law Court**, Honolulu  
**Cornerstones of Freedom Research Foundation**, Honolulu  
**Hawaii Unorganized Militia**, Honolulu  
**Kingdom of Hawai'i**, Honolulu  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Honolulu  
**Honolulu Unorganized Militia**, Mililani

## IDAHO

**Common Law Court**, Ada County  
**Idaho Sovereignty Association**, Boise  
**North American Freedom Council**, Boise  
**Stewards of the Range**, Boise  
**Common Law Court**, Boundary County  
**Americans for Constitutional Government**, Coeur d' Alene  
**Northwest Liberty Network**, Coeur d' Alene  
**Sovereign Citizens of America Network**, Coeur d' Alene  
**Concerned Citizens of Idaho**, Hayden Lake  
**Idaho Liberty Network**, Hayden Lake  
**John Birch Society**, Hayden Lake  
**Unorganized Militia of Idaho**, Hayden Lake  
**American Patriots of the Northwest**, Kamiah  
**Specially Prepared Individuals for Key Events**, Kamiah  
**Common Law Court**, Kootenai County

**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Kuna  
**Common Law Court**, Lewis County  
**Idaho Citizens Awareness Network**, Ponderay  
**Property Owners Association**, Sandpoint  
**American Sovereignty**, unspecified location  
**American Juris Association**, unspecified location  
**Idaho First Militia**, unspecified location

## ILLINOIS

**Northern Illinois Minutemen**, Arlington Heights  
**Southern Illinois Patriots League**, Buncombe  
**Illinois Patriots Coalition**, Centralia  
**Common Law Court**, Clark County  
**Northern Illinois Minutemen**, Elburn  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Elgin  
**Christian Patriots Defense League HQ**, Flora  
**Order of the Upright Ostrich**, Freeport  
**Morgan County Minutemen**, Jacksonville  
**Illinois Minutemen**, Lombard  
**Common Law Court**, Madison County  
**Western Illinois Militia**, Monmouth  
**Northern Illinois Minutemen**, Romeoville  
**Illinois Taxpayers Party**, West Chicago  
**Black Dawn**, unspecified location  
**John Birch Society**, unspecified location  
**Sons of Liberty**, unspecified location

## INDIANA

**Council of Conservative Citizens**, Bloomingdale  
**Christian Common Law Foundation**, Boonville  
**North American Freedom Council**, Boonville  
**North American Militia**, Boonville  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Corydon  
**Common Law Court**, Delaware County  
**Tri-County Carbineers**, Elberfeld  
**Indiana Citizens Volunteer Militia**, Harrison County  
**American Justice Federation**, Indianapolis  
**Black Panther Militia**, Indianapolis  
**Marion County Militia of Indiana**, Indianapolis  
**Sovereign Patriots**, Indianapolis  
**Unorganized Militia of the United States**, Indianapolis  
**Indiana Citizens Volunteer Militia**, Kokomo  
**Tippecanoe County Militia**, Lafayette  
**Common Law Court**, Marion County  
**Unknown Group Name**, Marion County  
**Indiana Citizens Volunteer Militia**, Morgan County  
**Delaware County Patriots**, Muncie  
**Patriots for Liberty**, Rochester  
**Unknown Group Name**, Salem  
**Common Law Court**, Warrick County

**Citizens Against Totalitarian Enactment**, White County  
**Greene County Militia**, Worthington  
**Defenders of the Pure**, unspecified location

## IOWA

**Iowa Militia**, Cedar Rapids  
**Common Law Court**, Delaware County  
**Common Law Court**, Floyd County  
**Common Law Court**, Jackson County  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Story City

## KANSAS

**Constitutionist Networking Center**, Baldwin  
**Common Law Court**, Butler County  
**Kansas Citizens Militia**, Lyndon  
**Common Law Court**, Rice County  
**Common Law Court**, Sedgwick County  
**Kansas Second Amendment Militia**, Spring Hill  
**Common Law Court**, Stafford County  
**Common Law Court**, St. Mary's  
**1st Mechanized Infantry Militia**, Towanda  
**American Constitutional Militia Network**, Wichita  
**Kansas Citizens Militia**, Wichita  
**Kansas Taxpayers Party**, Wichita  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Wichita

## KENTUCKY

**Defenders of Liberty**, Boone County  
**Kentucky Riflemen Militia**, Brooks  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**, Casey Creek  
**West Kentucky Committee of Safety**, Henderson  
**Troublesome Creek Liberation Army**, Hindman  
**Voice of Liberty**, Liberty  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Louisville

## LOUISIANA

**Council of Conservative Citizens**, Baton Rouge  
**Louisiana Action Network**, Baton Rouge  
**Independence Trust**, Benton  
**Citizens Against the Waco Atrocities**, Bossier City  
**Red River Militia**, Bossier City  
**Norwela Common Militia**, Bossier City  
**Washitaw Nation**, Columbia  
**Common Law Defense Fund**, Lafayette  
**Enlightened Patriots**, Lafayette  
**Louisiana Unorganized Militia**, Lafayette

**Common Law Court**, Lafayette Parish  
**Sons of Liberty**, Metairie  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Shreveport  
**Kitchen Militia**, Starks

## MAINE

**Maine Militia**, Belfast  
**Maine Militia**, Biddeford  
**National Citizens Alliance**, Brunswick  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Greene  
**2nd Maine Militia**, Parsonsfield

## MARYLAND

**Freedom Technics**, Silver Spring  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Taneytown  
**Maryland State Militia**, unspecified location

## MASSACHUSETTS

**John Birch Society**, Belmont  
**Citizens Justice Programs**, Hull  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Quincy  
**Massachusetts Militia**, Springfield  
**Regiment of Dragoons**, unspecified location

## MICHIGAN

**Church of the Lord Jesus Christ**, Adrian  
**Proclaim Liberty Ministry**, Adrian  
**Michigan Militia Corps**, Alanson  
**Northern Michigan Regional Militia**,  
Alanson  
**De-Taxing America**, Alto  
**Southern Michigan Regional Militia**, Battle Creek  
**Central East Michigan Regional Militia**, Bay City  
**Wolverine Michigan Militia**, Benzonia  
**Southern Michigan Regional Militia**, Burton  
**American Freedom Network**, Canton  
**Michigan Militia St. Clair County**, Capac  
**Gun Owners of Wayne County**, Dearborn  
**Justice Pro Se**, Dearborn  
**Michigan Militia**, Decker  
**Detroit Constitutional Militia**, Detroit  
**Michigan Militia At Large**, Dexter  
**Central East Michigan Regional Militia**, Flint  
**Southern Michigan Regional Militia**,  
Fowlerville  
**Southern Michigan Regional Militia**,  
Frankfort  
**American Law Studies Association**, Gowen  
**Central West Michigan Regional Militia**,  
Grand Rapids  
**Superior Michigan Regional Militia**, Gwinn  
**National Coalition of Militias**, Harbor Springs

**National Confederation of Citizens Militias**,  
Harbor Springs  
**Straits Area Constitutional Militia**, Harbor  
Springs  
**Success Marketing**, Harbor Springs  
**Southern Michigan Regional Militia**, Hillsdale  
County

**United States Militia at Large**, Hillsdale  
County  
**Michigan Militia**, Isabella County  
**Superior Michigan Regional Militia**,  
Ishpeming  
**Common Law Court**, Jenison  
**Michigan Militia Wolverine Corp**, Kalamazoo  
**Central West Michigan Regional Militia**,  
Lakeview  
**Superior Regional Militia Corps**, L'Anse  
**Justice Pro Se**, Lansing  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Lansing  
**Citizens Constitution Education Committee**,  
Livingston County  
**Common Law Court**, Manistee County  
**Central East Michigan Regional Militia**,  
Midland  
**Central West Michigan Regional Militia**,  
Mount Pleasant  
**Fed Up American**, Munising  
**Central West Michigan Regional Militia**,  
Muskegon  
**Common Law Court**, Ottawa County  
**Michigan Common Law Venue Supreme Court**,  
Ottawa County  
**Northern Michigan Regional Militia**, Pellston  
**Oakland County Taxpayer's Party**, Pontiac  
**Gun Owners of Southeastern Michigan**,  
Redford  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**, Roseville  
**Common Law Court**, Sanilac County  
**Southern Michigan Regional Militia**, St. Clair  
**Central West Michigan Regional Militia**,  
Tustin  
**Southern Michigan Regional Militia**, Wayne  
County  
**Northern Michigan Regional Militia**,  
Wolverine  
**For the People**, unspecified location  
**Fully Informed Jury Association**, unspecified  
location  
**Michigan Property Association**, unspecified  
location

**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Woodbury  
**Minnesota Constitutional Rangers**,  
unspecified location

## MISSISSIPPI

**Council of Conservative Citizens**, Calhoun  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Collins  
**Mississippi Militia**, Laurel  
**Revolutionary Force of America**, Laurel  
**Mississippi Militia**, Ocean Springs  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**, Vaiden  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**, Webster  
**Common Law Court**, unspecified location  
**Kitchen Militia**, unspecified location

## MISSOURI

**New Covenant Bible Church**, Birch Tree  
**Common Law Court**, Clay County  
**Continental Militia**, Crawford County  
**Common Law Court**, Dade County  
**1st Missouri Volunteers**, Des Peres  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Fenton  
**Missouri 51st Militia**, Grain Valley  
**George Gordon's School of Common Law**,  
Isabella  
**Common Law Court**, Jefferson County  
**Special Forces Underground**, Kansas City  
**Third Continental Congress**, Kansas City  
**Christian Patriot Defense League**, Licking  
**Common Law Court**, McDonald County  
**Citizens for the Kingdom of Christ**, Powell  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**, St. Louis  
**First Missouri Volunteers**, St. Louis  
**Missouri Sharpshooters**, St. Peters  
**South Central Missouri Regional Militia**,  
Steelville  
**Common Law Court**, Texas County  
**Missouri Taxpayers Party**, Valley Park  
**52nd Missouri Militia**, unspecified location  
**Central Missouri Militia**, unspecified location  
**John Birch Society**, unspecified location

## MONTANA

**Bozeman Freemen**, Bozeman  
**Common Law Court**, Cascade County  
**North American Volunteer Militia**, Darby  
**Militia Support Group**, Eureka  
**Common Law Court**, Garfield County  
**Fully Informed Jury Association**, Helmsville  
**Montana Freemen/Justus Township**, Jordan  
**Phoenix Financial Services**, Kalispell  
**Common Law Court**, Musselshell County  
**Education and Economic Abuse Foundation**,  
Noxon  
**Militia of Montana**, Noxon

## MINNESOTA

**Citizens For a Constitutional Minnesota**,  
Apple Valley  
**Common Law Court**, Hennepin County  
**Special Forces Underground**, Minneapolis  
**Common Law Court**, St. Paul

**Fully Informed Jury Association**, Ovado  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Polson  
**Common Law Court**, Ravalli County

## NEBRASKA

**Common Law Court**, Hamilton County  
**Constitutional Reinstatement Group**, Omaha  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Omaha  
**Educational Economic Abuse Foundation**,  
unspecified location

## NEVADA

**Nevada Volunteers**, Carson City  
**Common Law Court**, Clark County  
**American Patriot Fax Network**, Las Vegas  
**United States Constitution Rangers**, Las Vegas  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Sparks  
**Guardians of American Liberties**, unspecified  
location

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Concord  
**White Mountain Militia**, Cornish  
**Rodgers Rangers**, Haverhill  
**Hillsborough Troops of Dragoons**,  
Hillsborough  
**Old Man and The Mountain Militia**, Lincoln  
**Constitution Defense Militia**, Plainfield  
**Common Law Court**, Sullivan County  
**John Birch Society**, unspecified location  
**New Hampshire Militia**, unspecified location  
**Regiment of Dragoons**, unspecified location

## NEW JERSEY

**George Mason Society**, Edison  
**Salem County Militia**, Hancock's Bridge  
**Sovereigns Demanding Liberty, Inc.**,  
Hawthorne  
**Constitutionalists**, Mahwah  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Maple Shade  
**Middlesex County Militia**, Old Bridge  
**New Jersey Militia**, Trenton  
**Warren County Militia**, Warren County  
**Americans For Constitutional Government**,  
Watchung  
**Christian Patriots**, unspecified location  
**Remnant of Yahweh**, unspecified location

## NEW MEXICO

**A Well Regulated Militia**, Albuquerque  
**Christian Constitutionalists**, Albuquerque  
**Common Law Court**, Albuquerque  
**Constitutional Task Force**, Albuquerque

**New Mexico Militia**, Albuquerque  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Albuquerque  
**Wake Up America Movement**, Albuquerque  
**New Mexico Militia**, Bernalillo County  
**Concerned Citizens**, Catron County  
**Christian Crusade for Truth**, Deming  
**Four Corners Patriot Movement**, Farmington  
**Ministry of Salvation**, Mountainair  
**New Mexico Militia**, Mountainair  
**Rangers Outreach Center**, Pecos  
**Common Law Court**, San Juan County  
**House of Common Law School for Responsible  
Sovereignty**, Santa Fe  
**New Mexico Citizens Regulated Militia**,  
Santa Fe  
**Santa Fe County Militia**, Santa Fe  
**Big Star One**, unspecified location

## NEW YORK

**2nd Amendment Militia**, Binghamton  
**Broome County at 2AM**, Binghamton  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Brooklyn  
**Citizens Militia of Chemung County**,  
Chemung County  
**New York State Militia**, Elmira  
**Friends of the 2nd AM**, Endicott  
**Fully Informed Jury Association**, Fort Edward  
**Patrick Henry Volunteers**, Rochester  
**Truth Fellowship Order of Protection**,  
Schenectady  
**Orange County Committee of  
Correspondence**, Warwick

## NORTH CAROLINA

**Stone Kingdom Ministries**, Asheville  
**Alamance Regulators Militia**, Burlington  
**North Carolina Citizen Militia**, Canton  
**Citizens for the Reinstatement of  
Constitutional Government**, Charlotte  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**, Clemmons  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Concord  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**, Forest City  
**Common Law Court**, Franklin  
**Common Law Court**, Kinston  
**Americans For Preservation of Constitutional  
Heritage**, Macon County  
**Common Law Court**, Otto  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**, Raleigh  
**Northpoint Tactical Teams**, Topton  
**Constitutional Caucus**, Wilmington  
**John Birch Society**, unspecified location  
**We The People**, unspecified location

## NORTH DAKOTA

**Common Law Court**, Douglas  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Minot

**North Dakota Militia**, unspecified location

## OHIO

**Multi-State Defense Force Unorganized  
Militia**, Bellaire  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Belmont County  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Brown County  
**Constitutional Study Group of Canton**, Canton  
**True Blue Patriots**, Cincinnati  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Cincinnati  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Clark County  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Clermont County  
**Cuyahoga County Defense League**,  
Cleveland  
**Cuyahoga Militia**, Cleveland  
**North Coast Veteran's Association**,  
Cleveland  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Cleveland  
**Columbiana County Militia**,  
Columbiana  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Columbiana  
County  
**Mahoning Valley Militia**, Columbiana  
County  
**Central Ohio Unorganized Militia**,  
Columbus  
**Common Law Court**, Columbus  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**,  
Coshocton County  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Dayton  
**Liberty Forum**, Delaware County  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**,  
Delaware County  
**American Anti-Organized Crime Militia**,  
Franklin County  
**Central Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Franklin  
County  
**Unknown Group Name**, Grove City  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Hamilton County  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Hilltop  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Knox County  
**Partisan Rangers**, Lebanon  
**We're Fed Up**, Lebanon  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Licking County  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Lucas County  
**Central Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Madison  
County  
**Free Enterprise and Government**, Madison  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Marion County  
**Constitutionally United Republic for Everyone**,  
Medina  
**Ohio Citizens Militia**, Medina  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Medina County  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Morgan County  
**Mahoning Valley Militia**, Mahoning, North  
Jackson  
**Mahoning Valley Militia**, Stark County

**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Stark County  
E Pluribus Unum, Stockton  
**Mahoning Valley Militia**, Trumbull County  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Warren County  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Wayne County  
**Ohio Unorganized Militia**, Williams County  
**Southeastern Ohio Defense Force**,  
Zanesville  
**A Concerned Citizen**, unspecified location  
**Common Law Court, Central Ohio**, unspecified  
location  
**Common Law Court, Southwestern Ohio**,  
unspecified location  
**Ohio Volunteer Militia**, unspecified location

## OKLAHOMA

**Common Law Court**, Alfalfa County  
**Common Law Court**, Bryan County  
**Lighthouse Commons Trust**, Del City  
**United Sovereigns of America**, Del City  
**Oklahoma Citizens Militia**, Eufala  
**Common Law Court**, Garfield County  
**Common Law Court**, Grant County  
**Posse Comitatus**, Jet  
**Common Law Court**, Kay County  
**Common Law Court**, Kingfisher County  
**Cleveland County Militia**, Moore  
**Elohim City**, Muldrow  
**Christian Freemen**, Smithville  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Tulsa  
**Big Star One**, unspecified location

## OREGON

**American Justice Research Center**,  
Ashland  
**Eastern Oregon Militia**, Baker City  
**Freedom Bound International**, Baker City  
**Christian Patriot Association**, Boring  
**Natural Coin Exchange**, Boring  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Canby  
**Cascadian Resource Center**, Eugene  
**Common Law Court**, Lane County  
**A Lawful American**, Medford  
**Free America Society**, Medford  
**Common Law Court**, Multnomah County  
**Republic Vs. Democracy Redress**, Oregon  
City  
**Jural Society**, Portland  
**Common Law Court**, Prineville  
**Common Law Court**, Stayton  
**Citizens for a Constitutional Government**,  
unspecified location  
**Oregon Militia**, unspecified location  
**Oregon State Citizens Association**,  
unspecified location  
**Southern Oregon Militia**, unspecified location

## PENNSYLVANIA

**American Nationalist Union**, Allison Park  
**Proctor's Militia**, Bedford  
**Militia of Blair and Bedford Counties**, Bedford  
County  
**Militia of Blair and Bedford Counties**, Blair  
County  
**Crawford County Militia**, Crawford County  
**Bucktail Militia**, Elk County  
**Greene County Militia**, Greene County  
**Jefferson County Militia**, Jefferson County  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Lancaster  
**Bucktail Militia**, McKean County  
**U.S. Free Militia**, Millersburg  
**Common Law Court**, Montgomery County  
**Pennsylvania Militia**, Morrisville  
**Common Law Court**, Potter County  
**Potter County Militia**, Potter County  
**Punxsutawney Patriots**, Punxsutawney  
**Sons of Liberty**, Shilling  
**Posse Comitatus**, Ulysses  
**Bucktail Militia**, Warren County  
**United We Stand - Pennsylvania**, York  
**One Nation Under God America Militia**,  
York  
**Aryan Republican Army**, unspecified location  
**Keystone Second Amendment Association**,  
unspecified location  
**Pennsylvania Citizens Militia**, unspecified  
location  
**Unorganized Militias of Pennsylvania**,  
unspecified location

## RODE ISLAND

**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Narragansett  
**Rhode Islanders For Constitutional Education**,  
Providence  
**Rhode Island Light Infantry**, West Greenwich

## SOUTH CAROLINA

**Council of Conservative Citizens**,  
Barnwell  
**Sovereign Or Subject Coalition Against  
Government Evasiveness and Deceit**,  
Charleston  
**South Carolina Citizens Militia**,  
Clearwater  
**National Confederation of Civilian Militias**,  
Greenville  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**,  
Greenwood  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**,  
Orangeburg  
**South Carolina Civilian Militia**, Pickens  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**, Saluda

**South Carolina Civilian Militia**, Spartanburg  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**,  
Summerville  
**South Carolina Militia**, Taylors  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Taylors  
**South Carolina Civilian Militia**, unspecified  
location  
**South Carolina Taxpayers Party**, unspecified  
location

## SOUTH DAKOTA

**American Constitutional Militia Network**,  
Gregory  
**Common Law Court**, Lawrence County  
**South Dakota Militia**, Newell  
**Common Law Court**, Pennington County  
**Tri-State Militia**, Rapid City  
**Tri-State Militia**, Sioux Falls  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Sioux Falls

## TENNESSEE

**American Patriot Federation**,  
Chattanooga  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**, East  
Tennessee  
**1st Mississippi Light Artillery**, Hixson  
**Jackson Militia**, Jackson  
**Americans for Constitutional Integrity**,  
Johnson City  
**Freeman Liberty Foundation**, Knoxville  
**Sons of Liberty**, Knoxville  
**Tennessee Volunteer State Militia**,  
Knoxville  
**Committees of Correspondence**, Lenoir City  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**,  
Memphis  
**Mid South Patriots**, Memphis  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Memphis  
**Christian Civil Liberties Association**,  
Morristown  
**Guardians of American Liberties**,  
Mosheim  
**Sacred Truth Ministries**, Mountain City  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**,  
Nashville  
**For Christ and Country Fellowship**,  
Nashville  
**Committee of 1776, Inc.**, Powell  
**Tennessee Militia**, Signal Mountain  
**Tennessee Volunteer People's Militia**, Signal  
Mountain

## TEXAS

**Texas Militia Correspondence Committee**,  
Arlington

**Austin Jural Society**, Austin  
**Texas Light Infantry**, Austin  
**Texas Constitutional Militia**, Beaumont  
**Common Law Court**, Bexar County  
**Red River Militia**, Bowie  
**Fully Informed Jury Association**, Dallas  
**Provisional Government of the Republic of Texas**, Dallas  
**Texas Constitutional Militia**, Dallas  
**War and Emergency Powers**, Dallas  
**Red River Militia**, Dekalb  
**American Christian Ministries**, Fort Davis  
**Republic of Texas Movement**, Fort Davis  
**Red River Militia**, Gilmore  
**Comal County Militia**, Guadalupe Valley  
**Republic of Texas Comal County**, Guadalupe Valley  
**1st Calvary Reserve Militia**, Houston  
**Council of Conservative Citizens**, Houston  
**Montgomery County Militia**, Houston  
**Texas Constitutional Militia**, Houston  
**United States Special Forces National Militia**, Houston  
**Common Law Court**, Kendall County  
**United States Civil Militia Organization**, Kerrville  
**Red River Militia**, Marshall  
**Republic of Texas**, Shiner  
**God Said Ministries**, Mount Enterprise  
**Common Law Court**, Orange County  
**1st Light Infantry Regiment**, Red Oak  
**North Texas Constitutional Militia**, Richardson  
**Constitution Society**, San Antonio  
**Republic of Texas**, San Antonio  
**Sons of Liberty**, San Antonio  
**Texas Constitutional Militia**, San Antonio  
**Texas Militia Correspondence Committee**, San Antonio  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, San Antonio  
**Red River Militia**, Texarkana  
**Victoria County Constitutional Militia**, Victoria  
**Freedom Fighters**, Weslaco  
**2nd Amendment Freedom Enterprise Inc.**, Yoakum  
**7th Texas Infantry**, unspecified location  
**Big Star One**, unspecified location  
**Central Texas Militia**, unspecified location  
**Citizens for Legal Reform**, unspecified location  
**John Birch Society**, unspecified location  
**North Texas Civilian Militia**, unspecified location  
**Peaceable Texans for Firearms Rights**, unspecified location  
**Texas Rangers**, unspecified location  
**Texas Reserve Militia—1st Battalion, 1st Light Infantry Regiment**, unspecified location

## UTAH

**Preparedness Expo**, Ogden  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Orem  
**Status Society**, Provo  
**Sovereign Militia Patriots**, Salt Lake City  
**Army of Israel**, St. George  
**Militia of Utah**, unspecified location  
**Rocky Mountain Militia**, unspecified location

## VERMONT

**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, South Burlington  
**Regiment of Dragoons**, unspecified location

## VIRGINIA

**Virginia Citizens Militia**, Ashland  
**1st Virginia Freeborn Civilian Militia**, Bedford County  
**Waco Remembrance**, Fairfax  
**John Birch Society**, Lynchburg  
**Virginia Citizens Militia**, Roanoke  
**Gun Owners of America**, Springfield  
**U.S. Taxpayers Alliance**, Vienna  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party Head Quarters**, Vienna  
**Proverbs of Patriots**, unspecified location

## WASHINGTON

**Common Law Court**, Clark County, Amboy  
**Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms**, Bellevue  
**Second Amendment Foundation**, Bellevue  
**Citizens for Liberty**, Bellingham  
**Common Law Court**, Chelan  
**Lake Chelan Citizens Militia**, Chelan  
**Washington State Constitutional Rangers**, Chelan  
**Washington State Militia**, Deming  
**Common Law Court**, Ellensburg  
**Clark County Militia**, Fargher Lake  
**For Liberty**, Graham  
**Sons of Liberty**, Kitsap  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Mercer Island  
**American Sovereigns Group**, Moses Lake  
**Common Law Court**, Moses Lake  
**National Citizens Alliance**, Mountlake Terrace  
**Citizens for a Constitutional Washington**, Puyallup  
**We The People Committee**, Puyallup  
**Common Law Court**, Seattle  
**Right Way**, Seattle  
**Common Law Court**, Snohomish County  
**Snohomish County Militia**, Snohomish

**Concerned Citizens of Washington**, Spokane

**Promotions Media Group**, Spokane

**Skamania Citizens Militia**, Stevenson

**Christian Jural Society**, unspecified location

**Eastern Washington Citizens Militia Coalition**, unspecified location

**Wenatchee Common Law Court**, Wenatchee

**Wenatchee Minutemen Militia**, Wenatchee

**Common Law Court**, Whatcom County

**We the People**, White Salmon

## WEST VIRGINIA

**Mountaineer Militia**, Clarksburg  
**National Alliance HQ**, Hillsboro  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Huntington  
**Unknown Group Name**, Petersburg  
**West Virginia Militia**, Wileyville

## WISCONSIN

**John Birch Society**, Appleton  
**Tax Reform Immediately**, Appleton  
**Common Law Court**, Columbia County  
**Common Law Court**, Crawford County  
**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Dousman  
**Common Law Court**, Grant County  
**Common Law Court**, Juneau County  
**Common Law Court**, LaCrosse County  
**Waupaca County Militia**, Manawa  
**Common Law Court**, Manitowoc County  
**Black Panther Militia**, Milwaukee  
**Common Law Court**, Milwaukee  
**Wisconsin Christian Freeman Militia**, Milwaukee  
**Common Law Court**, Portage County  
**Family Action Association**, Shawano  
**Common Law Court**, Shawano County  
**We the People**, Shawano County  
**Minuteman Militia**, Slinger  
**Common Law Court**, Taylor County  
**Family Farm Preservation Society**, Tigerton  
**Common Law Court**, Trempleau County  
**Common Law Court**, Waupaca County  
**Best Video Productions**, Wheeler  
**Citizens for Law Reform**, unspecified location  
**Free Militia**, unspecified location

## WYOMING

**U.S. Taxpayers Party**, Lander

**Common Law Court**, Laramie County

# PATRIOT CRIMES IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1996

*This list of 1996 arrests and prosecutions of individuals tied to the Patriot Movement was compiled by Klanwatch and its Militia Task Force. The incidents were drawn from law enforcement reports, Patriot publications and newspaper articles.*

## Arizona

• On July 1, 1996, 12 members of an Arizona militia group called the Viper Militia were arrested on conspiracy, weapons and explosive charges. According to the indictment, Viper members conducted surveillance on federal and state government buildings and planned to keep a database of the home addresses of law enforcement officials.

On Dec. 19, 1996, Gary Bauer pleaded guilty to conspiring to make unlawful explosives, conspiring to teach others to use them and to nine illegal weapons and explosive charges, and Randy Nelson pleaded guilty to conspiring to make unlawful explosives, conspiring to teach others to use them and to two weapons charges. On Dec. 27, 1996, Scott Shero, Walter Sanville and Henry Overturf pleaded guilty to conspiring to illegally make and possess unregistered explosive devices. Sanville also pleaded guilty to two counts of unlawful possession of machine gun parts.

On Dec. 31, 1996, Ellen A. Belliveau, David Belliveau and Dean Pleasant pleaded guilty to weapons-related conspiracy charges and participation in making a videotape in 1994 of buildings housing federal law enforcement agencies and other government facilities. Also, on Dec. 31, 1996, Finis "Rick" Walker and Donna Williams pleaded guilty to all charges, including weapons-related conspiracy charges.

Two other Viper members, Charles Franklin Knight and Christopher Allen Floyd, did not enter pleas and were set for trial in mid-April.

On March 19, 1997, sentences were handed down to six of the Viper Militia members: Overturf and Williams each received one year in prison and fined \$1,500; Shero received two years in prison and fined \$1,500; Sanville received three years and one month and fined \$2,500; Ellen Belliveau received three years and one month in prison and David Belliveau received four years and nine months in prison.

On March 20, 1997, Bauer was sentenced to nine years in prison and fined \$15,000. Walker and Nelson were sentenced to five years and 10 months each and Nelson was fined \$2,500.

On April 2, 1997, Pleasant was sentenced to five years and eleven months in prison.

## California

• On Oct. 4, 1996, Elizabeth Broderick, a Freeman disciple, was convicted on conspiracy, fraud and money laundering charges. She was later sentenced to 16 years in prison. Two men who assisted Broderick, Barry Switzer and Julian Cheney, were also convicted

on conspiracy and fraud charges. Their sentencing hearing was scheduled for May 12, 1997. Adolf Karl Hoch, Broderick's partner, pleaded guilty in September 1996 and sentenced to four years in federal prison. Hoch's daughter, Laura Marie Hoey, pleaded guilty on Oct. 30, 1996 and on Jan. 21, 1997, was placed on two years' probation and ordered to pay a \$2,500 fine.

## Colorado

• In September 1996, a Colorado state grand jury indicted 12 Colorado residents in a scheme to bankrupt the U.S. government by using phony liens and checks. Rodney Skurdal, Joseph Repak, Richard Reeser, Douglas Risch, Richard Johnson, Mary Sevance, David Schiller, Judith Linton Clark, Barry Taylor, David Van Pelt, Robert Glasser and Rickie Allen Wilson were charged with forgery, theft and filing false liens. The trials were split between five different counties and began in March 1997.

• On Sept. 10, 1996, Merrilee Kinzie Borden, 39, a self-described constitutionalist, was charged with attempting to influence a public servant, criminal extortion and offering a false instrument for recording. Borden was convicted on all three counts and is scheduled to be sentenced on June 25, 1997.

• On Oct. 4, 1996, Weldon Burrus, 69, and his wife, Novella, 73, were found guilty of offering a false

**Members of the Arizona-based Viper Team plead guilty to a variety of weapons and conspiracy charges.**



Bauer



Sanville



Overturf



Shero



David Belliveau



Williams

AP/Wide World Photos

## Three members of a Georgia militia group were convicted on weapons and explosives charges

instrument for recording. The two reportedly have ties to the militia movement. On Jan. 17, 1997, they were found in contempt of court for not following probation orders and are currently in jail.

### Florida

• In March 1996, Emilio Ippolito and Susan Mokdad were indicted along with nine others on charges of conspiring to commit offenses against the United States. Ippolito, Mokdad, John J. Gentz, Larry M. Myers, Phillip Marsh, Douglas J. Carpa, Richard A. Brown, Charles P. Dunnigan, Jack W. Warren, Jack M. Franz and Laurent J. Moore, common-law adherents, are accused of making threats to court system officials and jurors in cases in California and Orlando, mostly through the mailing of bogus legal documents charging people with treason. A trial date has not been set.

• On Dec. 13, 1996, Gene Webb, 39, was sentenced to more than two years in prison for refusing to pay federal income taxes for four years. Federal authorities claim Webb is a tax protest leader who taught others to avoid paying taxes.

### Georgia

• On April 26, 1996, Robert Edward Starr III, 34, and William James McCranie Jr., 30, leaders of the Militia-at-Large for the Republic of Georgia, were charged with conspiracy to possess explosive devices after allegedly planning to construct homemade shrapnel bombs for distribution among militia members. The two were convicted of conspiring to use a destructive weapon in a violent crime and possessing illicit explosives in November 1996. Starr was sentenced to eight years and one month, and McCranie received a six-and-a-half-year sentence.

• On June 4, 1996, Troy Allen Kyser, 28, an alleged leader in the Militia-at-Large for the Republic of Georgia's "special operations team," attended a detention hearing after turning himself in to authorities on charges of conspiring to possess bombs and having an unregistered destructive device. Kyser, a former Army Ranger, and his five-member team had allegedly been trained to assassinate politicians and steal money from drug dealers to fund their activities. Kyser was convicted of conspiring to use a destructive weapon in a violent crime and possessing illicit explosives in November 1996. Kyser was sentenced to six-and-a-half-years.

### Indiana

• On June 10, 1996, Joe Holland, 54, and his wife Shirley, 58, were arrested on charges of conspiracy, income tax fraud, bankruptcy fraud and money laundering. Holland is the national director of the North American Freedom Council and owner of the Christian Common Law Foundation. The two went on trial April 21, 1997.

### Iowa

• On Nov. 18, 1996, Scott Stedeford, a member of

the underground terrorist group the Aryan Republican Army, was found guilty of participating in the armed robbery of a Des Moines bank in March. On Feb. 7, 1997, Stedeford was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

• On Dec. 30, 1996, six tax protesters were found guilty of mail fraud, money-laundering and conspiracy. Joan and Larry Webb, Kenneth Kraklio, A.K. "Shorty" Zurcher, Donald Gardemann and Joseph Mentlick Jr. were allegedly involved in a group called We the People Farm Claims Co-op, an anti-government group that promised people monetary damages from the government if they would each file a \$300 claim. An estimated 7,000 people filed claims. A sentencing date will not be set until forfeiture actions are finished. Melvin Hague pleaded guilty earlier of fraud. Two others, Scott Hildebrand and his father Quentin Hildebrand, were also charged under the same indictment, but their cases have been postponed.

### Michigan

• On June 7, 1996, Gary Allen Rasmussen, 43, was charged with possession of explosives after police allegedly found a bomb made of two sticks of dynamite connected to a detonator in his house and 12 more sticks of dynamite in a rented storage building. Rasmussen allegedly told police that he was a brigadier general for the United States Special Forces, a militia group based in Florida. Rasmussen was scheduled for a status/settlement conference on April 23, 1997.

• On June 24, 1996, James Norbert Napier Jr., 52, and Rodger Bruce Yates, 60, were arrested for allegedly trying to defraud the IRS. The two men allegedly were involved in the check scheme with Montana Freemen LeRoy Schweitzer. A sealed verdict was handed down on Jan. 21, 1997.

• On Dec. 16, 1996, John Stephenson and Paul Darland, members of the United States Militia at Large, were charged with murder and conspiracy for killing William Michael Gleason in October 1994. Darland and Gleason, members of militia strategist Mark Koernke's "security team," were arrested in September 1994 on weapons charges. Stephenson, 49, was arrested for the murder while Darland, 25, remains at large.

### Minnesota

• On Oct. 23, 1996, Ronald Kerkvliet, 56, and his wife Marilyn, 54, were charged with one count of bankruptcy fraud and six counts of mail fraud after allegedly paying bills with checks signed by Montana Freeman LeRoy Schweitzer. Marilyn Kerkvliet also was charged with two counts of passing counterfeit checks. The Kerkvlies were found guilty on Feb. 20, 1997.

• On Oct. 31, 1996, Roger Leffler, 59, was charged with one count of bankruptcy fraud, six counts of mail fraud and two counts of passing coun-

terfeit checks after allegedly using checks signed by Montana Freeman LeRoy Schweitzer to pay off back taxes, creditors and delinquent alimony payments. Leffler was found guilty on Feb. 20, 1997.

#### Missouri

• On Dec. 12, 1996, 14 common-law court advocates were convicted of tampering with a judicial official. Clifford Keith Hobbs, Dennis Logan, Andrew J. Cella, Raymond L. Rees, Floyd Heubner, Dorsett Gant, Donald R. Schaefer, Donald L. Shaffer, Mike Peek, Ima D. Conklin, Roger A. Peek, Donald L. Young, Roman N. Hasleg Jr. and James P. Ransdell were charged after they helped file a bogus \$10.8 million lien against Lincoln County Associate Circuit Judge Patrick Flynn in an attempt to force him to drop a speeding case. Sentencing date has not been set yet. On Jan. 24, 1997, Heubner, Schaefer, Shaffer, Young and Mike Peek were sentenced to two years in prison and each fined \$5,000. Dennis Logan was sentenced to seven years in prison and fined \$5,000. On Feb. 14, 1997, Cella, Rees, Gant, Hasleg, Ransdell and Roger Peek were sentenced to two years in prison and fined \$5,000. Hobbs was sentenced to seven years in prison and fined \$5,000. Conklin will be sentenced at a later date.

#### Montana

• On March 25, 1996, Montana Freemen LeRoy M. Schweitzer and Daniel E. Petersen were charged with millions of dollars' worth of bank, financial and mail fraud and with threatening public officials for their actions between 1993 and 1995. Freemen followers believe they are sovereign citizens and do not recognize the authority of the federal government. On March 30, 1996, Freeman follower Richard E. Clark surrendered to authorities to face the same charges. Several other men and women became involved in an 81-day standoff with federal authorities near Jordan, Mont., which ended on June 13, 1996. Dale M. Jacobi, Rodney O. Skurdal, Emmett Clark, Russell Landers and Cherlyn B. Petersen were charged with numerous crimes including conspiracy, mail fraud, bank fraud and firearms violations. James E. Hance, John R. Hance and Casey Clark are charged with assisting offenders to prevent their arrest. Casey Veldhuizen was charged with conspiracy to commit fraud. Elwin Ward was charged with being an accessory after the fact. Edwin Clark was charged with bank fraud. Dana Dudley Landers was charged with conspiracy, bank fraud and interstate transportation of stolen property. No trial dates have been set.

#### Nevada

• On Oct. 17, 1996, Joseph Bailie, 42, was sentenced to 36 years in prison for trying to blow up the Internal Revenue Service Building in Reno. Bailie allegedly has been a tax protester since 1985.

#### New Hampshire

• On Oct. 30, 1996, Fitzhugh MacCrae, 51, was charged with stealing government property and making false statements to the FBI after an investigation linked him to stolen equipment from an Army warehouse at Fort Devens in September 1995. MacCrae is a member of the Hillsborough County Dragoons, a New Hampshire citizens' militia. MacCrae pleaded guilty on March 3, 1997. His sentencing was scheduled for May 14, 1997.

#### New Jersey

• On June 13, 1996, Russell Gary Fauver, 45, pleaded guilty to illegal firearms possession after a search of Fauver's residence revealed weapons including two dozen pistols, assault rifles and machine guns. At one time Fauver was allegedly associated with the Christian Patriot Defense League. On Sept. 25, 1996, Fauver was sentenced to 60 months in prison and three years of supervised release and fined \$2,000.

#### Ohio

• In January 1996, Larry Martz, a member of the Unorganized Militia of Ohio, was charged with felonious assault and assault after he allegedly attacked a state highway patrol trooper during a traffic stop in Cambridge. Martz had been riding in a car behind another member of the Unorganized Militia of Ohio, Michael H. Hill, when Hill was shot to death during a confrontation with a Frazeysburg police officer in 1995. A jury found Martz guilty in May 1996 and sentenced him to two years in prison.

• On Jan. 19, 1996, Peter K. Langan, 37, and Richard L. Guthrie Jr., 37, were charged as the main suspects in a string of 18 robberies in seven states. They both were members of the Aryan Republican Army, an underground terrorist group. On July 3, 1996, Guthrie pleaded guilty to 19 bank robberies and was expected to testify against Langan. Nine days

## Members of a Missouri common-law court filed a bogus \$10.8 million lien against a judge

**LeRoy Schweitzer** (shown here on one of his videotapes) taught his bogus check-writing scheme to hundreds of anti-government schemers.



## **Members of a West Virginia militia were charged with plotting to blow up an FBI facility.**

later he was found hanged in his jail cell. On Feb. 10, 1997, Langan was found guilty on five counts of bank robbery and of using an explosive device during a robbery. Sentencing date has not been set yet.

### **Oklahoma**

• On Aug. 9, 1996, **Dan Meador**, a common-law advocate, was indicted for obstructing justice and twice illegally communicating with a member of a federal grand jury. Meador allegedly obstructed justice by illegally filing a pleading on behalf of tax protesters Kenney Moore and Wayne Gunwall. He also sent two written communications to a grand jury foreman in November 1995 while the grand jury was investigating the common-law movement in Oklahoma. He was found guilty on Jan. 10, 1997, and was scheduled to be sentenced May 13, 1997.

### **Oregon**

• On April 11, 1996, **Ray Hamblin**, 52, an anti-government sympathizer, was charged with illegal possession of an explosive device after authorities found bomb-making materials on his property in Hood River. Among the items found on his property were 460 pounds of the gel-type high explosive Tovex, 746 pounds of ANFO blasting agent and 15 homemade hand grenades. In October, Hamblin was convicted on the charges and sentenced to 44 months in a federal prison.

### **Pennsylvania**

• On May 31, 1996, **Kevin McCarthy**, a member of the Aryan Republican Army, was arrested on bank robbery charges. He plead guilty in Philadelphia on February 21, 1997, to conspiracy charges covering six robberies. McCarthy testified against Scott Stedeford and is expected to testify against Peter Langan. No sentencing date has been set.

### **Texas**

• On June 13, 1996, **Gerald Joe Henson** was convicted on fraud and conspiracy charges for promoting and selling bogus money orders. This scheme raised over \$2 million worth of fake money orders to be mailed to the Internal Revenue Service. Henson, a leader of an Oklahoma tax protest group, was sentenced on Oct. 10, 1996, to eight years and one month in jail and fined \$10,000.

• On Aug. 9, 1996, **Charles Ray Polk**, 46, was sentenced to 20 years and nine months, without the possibility of parole, for planning to blow up the IRS office building in Austin and kill the employees.

### **Washington**

• On April 29, 1996, a bomb packed with 3-inch nails exploded in a doorway of the City Hall in Spokane.

• On July 29, 1996, Washington State Militia leader **John Pitner** and three other members of the

group—**Frederick Benjamin Fisher, Marlin Lane Mack and Gary Marvin Kuehnoel**—and four Freemen from Seattle—**John Lloyd Kirk, Judy Carol Kirk, William Smith and Richard Frank Burton**—were arrested on weapons and explosives charges. The Patriots are accused of conspiring to make and possess pipe bombs for a confrontation with the federal government. On Feb. 28, 1997, Pitner, Mack, Kuehnoel and Kirk were convicted on weapons charges. A mistrial was declared on the conspiracy charges against all seven anti-government activists.

• On Oct. 8, 1996, three men were charged with bank robbery, bombings, possession of hand grenades and conspiracy in connection with two robberies in four months at the same Spokane bank and two bombings, one at *The Spokesman-Review* newspaper and one at Planned Parenthood. The accused, **Charles Barbee, 44, Robert Berry, 42, and Jay Merrill, 51**, are believed to be members of an anti-government religious sect. On April 2, jurors convicted the trio of interstate transportation of vehicles and hand grenade possession but deadlocked on the robbery and bombing counts. Prosecutors will retry them in June.

### **West Virginia**

• On Oct. 11, 1996, seven members of the Mountaineer Militia were arrested for allegedly plotting to blow up the FBI's national fingerprint record center and two other federal buildings. The charges against **Ray Looker, 56, James Rogers, 40, Edward F. Moore, 52, Jack Arland Phillips, 57, James M. Johnson, 48, Terrell P. Coon, 46, and Imam A. Lewis, 26**, included conspiring to make bombs, transporting explosives across state lines and conspiring to place explosives near the FBI complex.

### **Wisconsin**

• On Nov. 7, 1996, **David Krieger, 42, and Gladys MacDonnell Lee, 65**, pleaded guilty to conspiring to distribute phony money orders as part of the Family Farm Preservation's \$64 million scam. On Feb. 4, 1997, Lee was sentenced to one year probation and fined \$1,500. On Feb. 5, 1997, Krieger was sentenced to three years probation and fined \$1,000.

• On Nov. 12, 1996, **Inge Kelly, 60**, pleaded guilty to one count of conspiring to distribute phony money orders as part of the Family Farm Preservation's \$64 million scam. On Feb. 24, 1997, Kelly was sentenced to three years probation and fined \$3,000.

• On Dec. 6, 1996, a federal jury found four members of the Family Farm Preservation group guilty of passing millions of dollars in bogus money orders. **Thomas Stockheimer and Leonard Peth**, both leaders of the group, **Mark Van Dyke and Harry Days** were found guilty on conspiracy and mail fraud charges. They were scheduled to be sentenced in April 1997. ▲

# FOR THE RECORD

Incidents listed in For The Record are drawn primarily from media sources and initial police reports, not all of which have been verified by Klanwatch. Because hate crimes often are not reported, this listing understates the true level of bias incidents.

## INTELLIGENCE

### Watseka, IL • Jan. 22, 1997

Ricky Salyers, a reported white supremacist and former Marine reconnaissance sergeant, was arrested after police allegedly found a cache of stolen government explosives, weapons and hand grenades, as well as racist literature, at his residence.

## ASSAULTS

### City Heights, CA • Feb. 26, 1997

A man was allegedly stabbed by a group of reported Skinheads.

### Fresno, CA • Feb. 4, 1997

A white high school student with ethnic friends was allegedly punched and kicked by a Skinhead.

### La Mesa, CA • Feb. 18, 1997

A white high school student was allegedly kicked by a black high school student after he taunted several black students. The black student was charged with assault with a deadly weapon.

### Perris, CA • Jan. 31, 1997

A white man was allegedly attacked by two Hispanic men who used racial slurs.

### Pompano Beach, FL • Jan. 29, 1997

Two black men were allegedly attacked by two white men who yelled racial epithets. Charles Goodman, 35, and Douglas Goodman, 34, were charged with aggravated assault with a hate crime enhancement.

### Chicago, IL • Jan. 3, 1997

A white woman was allegedly assaulted and robbed by a black man who used racial epithets. Ramon Swilly, 18, was charged with armed robbery and a hate crime.

### Brunswick, ME • Feb. 21, 1997

A black man and a white woman

were allegedly shot at, threatened and called racial slurs by a white man. Richard A. Weymouth was arrested.

### Detroit, MI • Jan. 10, 1997

A black man was allegedly assaulted at a traffic light by two white men who yelled racial slurs and smashed his windows.

### Madison Heights, MI • January 1997

A man was allegedly beaten by four reported Skinheads.

### Rochester, MN • Jan. 10, 1997

A black Somali youth was allegedly beaten by three white youths who used racial slurs.

### Scotch Plains, NJ • Feb. 3, 1997

A woman was allegedly kicked and called a racial slur by a high school student after she intervened in a dispute between her son and the student's brother.

### New Brighton, NY • Feb. 4, 1997

An Asian-American woman was allegedly shot in the face with a BB gun by two black men who used anti-Asian slurs.

### New York, NY • Feb. 14, 1997

A man was allegedly attacked and robbed by five men who called him anti-gay epithets.

### Queens, NY • Jan. 21, 1997

A black traffic agent was allegedly attacked by a white man who shouted racial epithets.

### Rockaway Beach, NY • Jan. 15, 1997

A Hispanic man was allegedly slapped by a man in a bias-motivated incident. Hubert Grove, 47, was charged with assault.

### Bensalem, PA • January 1997

Two black men were allegedly shot at by a white man who yelled racial slurs. Henry Sniecikowski,

74, was charged with simple and aggravated assault, making terroristic threats, ethnic intimidation and recklessly endangering another person.

### Greer, SC • Jan. 4, 1997

A man was allegedly attacked by a group of men who yelled racial slurs.

### Goldendale, WA • Jan. 25, 1997

A Hispanic family was allegedly assaulted by three men who used racial slurs. Robert W. Koffler Jr., 25, Scott E. Wendt, 24, and Zachariah J. Helvie, 20, were charged with assault and malicious harassment.

### Granite Falls, WA • Jan. 23, 1997

A white youth was allegedly shot at by a white man in a car who yelled a racial slur. Police were investigating the incident as a hate crime.

### Snohomish, WA • Jan. 30, 1997

A 19-year-old Skinhead was allegedly stabbed by a member of the non-racist Skinhead group Skin Heads Against Racial Prejudice. The SHARP member was charged with first-degree assault.

## ARSONS

### Tampa, FL • Jan. 12, 1997

A Hindu temple was set afire. Authorities found swastikas and derogatory messages at the scene.

### Elko, GA • February 1997

A black church was set afire. Three white men were charged with arson.

## BOMBINGS

### Atlanta, GA • Feb. 21, 1997

A bomb exploded at a gay nightclub and another bomb was found outside the club during the investigation. A group calling itself Army of God claimed responsibility.

## CLASHES

### Alameda, CA • Jan. 21, 1997

Black and white students clashed at a high school after a white student brought a racist flier to school.

### Castaic, CA • Feb. 18, 1997

Black and Latino prisoners clashed.

### Santa Barbara, CA • Jan. 29, 1997

Black and Latino high school students clashed.

### Alpharetta, GA • Jan. 23, 1997

Black and white high school students clashed after a white man wore a Klan T-shirt on campus.

### El Paso, TX • Feb. 11, 1997

Black and Hispanic high school students clashed.

### Waynesboro, VA • January 1997

Black and white students clashed at a high school a day after a fight between a black student and white student.

## CROSS BURNINGS

### Madison, AL • Jan. 20, 1997

A cross was burned at an apartment complex.

### Fontana, CA • Feb. 13, 1997

A cross was burned at a residence where a black woman, a white woman and two children were living. Gary Padgett, 31, was charged with a hate crime.

### Riverside, CA • Feb. 4, 1997

A cross was burned at a biracial couple's residence.

## THREATS

### Oceanside, CA • Jan. 23, 1997

A black youth was allegedly threatened with a stick by three Latino youths.

**North Miami Beach, FL • March 1997**

Two black high school students allegedly found a racist, threatening letter signed "Ku Klux Klan" in their locker.

**Wellesley, MA • Feb. 26, 1997**

A Latina student at Wellesley College allegedly received a racist, threatening message on her answering machine.

**Jackson, MS • Feb. 24, 1997**

A caller claiming to be with Aryan Nations threatened to blow up a federal building with a pipe bomb.

**Trenton, NJ • March 1997**

A black actor portraying Jesus Christ allegedly received death threats.

**Granville, OH • Jan. 28, 1997**

After escorting a black women to her dorm room at Denison University, a white man was allegedly threatened by three people who wore ski masks.

**Vermilion, OH • February 1997**

A white high school student with black friends allegedly received threats and found pictures of burning crosses, Klan symbols and swastikas in her locker.

**South Kingstown, RI • January 1997**

A woman of Indian descent allegedly received several threatening racist notes.

**HARASSMENT****La Mesa, CA • Feb. 13, 1997**

A white high school student yelled racial and anti-Semitic slurs at black and Jewish high school students. Six students were suspended.

**Orlando, FL • Feb. 16, 1997**

A black man was allegedly called a racial slur by two men and a youth. Grant DesLauriers, 20, James Quinn, 18, and Edward Quinn, 16, were arrested.

**Bloomington, IN • Feb. 1, 1997**

Racial epithets and threatening messages were allegedly sent to

Asian students at Indiana University at Bloomington via e-mail.

**Milton, MA • Jan. 14, 1997**

A racist letter was left at a black student's dorm room at an academy.

**Kansas City, MO • March 9, 1997**

White supremacist slogans were written on the NCAA's Web page.

**Omaha, NE • Jan. 7, 1997**

Anti-Semitic and anti-gay messages were sent to several out-of-state schools using a university computer at Creighton University.

**Athens, TN • Jan. 20, 1997**

Pieces of cardboard with racial slurs and the letters "KKK" written on them were left at a black family's residence.

**Williamsburg, VA • January 1997**

Anti-Semitic literature was sent to several professors at the College of William and Mary.

**INTIMIDATION****Swansboro, NC • Jan. 31, 1997**

A fake pipe bomb with a racist flier attached to it was left at the Chamber of Commerce.

**Omaha, NE • Feb. 10, 1997**

A small cross was left in the gas-tank opening of a black employee's car at the University of Nebraska-Omaha. A racial slur was also spray-painted on the car.

**Wytheville, VA • January 1997**

Several white high school students allegedly made nooses of drawstrings and wore them around their necks on campus. Ten students were suspended.

**VANDALISM****Hayneville, AL • Feb. 5, 1997**

A rebel flag was spray-painted on a monument for a slain civil rights worker.

**Northport, AL • Feb. 26, 1997**

A racial slur was spray-painted at a black man's residence.

**Fremont, CA • Jan. 8, 1997**

Racial slurs were written in several library books on black culture.

**Hayward, CA • January 1997**

The letters "KKK" were written in ethnic books at a library.

**La Mesa, CA • Jan. 20, 1997**

Swastikas and racist graffiti were spray-painted at a community center.

**Lemon Grove, CA • Feb. 20, 1997**

Racial slurs and white supremacist slogans were written at a black family's residence that was vandalized.

**Sacramento, CA • January 1997**

A swastika and a white power symbol were carved into a rifle at a prison.

**San Francisco, CA • March 1997**

Swastikas were etched into windows at several Asian businesses.

**Montville, CT • Feb. 4, 1997**

Racist graffiti, Klan symbols and references to the White Legion were scrawled on a picnic table, a newspaper sales box and street signs.

**Miami, FL • Feb. 16, 1997**

Racial epithets were spray-painted at a black arts center.

**Springfield, IL • February 1997**

Swastikas were spray-painted on a historical monument.

**Boston, MA • February 1997**

A swastika was painted at a Jewish cemetery. Three youths, ages 12 and 13, were arrested.

**Dedham, MA • Feb. 13, 1997**

Swastikas were painted at an elementary school.

**Wellesley, MA • Feb. 8, 1997**

A racist message was written on a dorm room door at Wellesley College.

**Ellicott City, MD • February 1997**

Anti-Semitic and racist graffiti was spray-painted at a high school.

**Howard County, MD • January 1997**

Racist and anti-Semitic graffiti was spray-painted at two schools.

**Andrews, NC • Feb. 4, 1997**

The letters "KKK" were spray-painted on a woman's car. Christina M. Dave, 20, was charged with resisting, obstructing and other charges. Jeffrey W. McTaggart, 20, and Shana M. Brown, 17, were charged with communicating threats, trespass and ethnic intimidation.

**Graham, NC • February 1997**

Racial slurs were spray-painted at a church and a grocery store.

**Lincoln, NE • February 1997**

Racist graffiti was painted throughout the city.

**Plaistow, NH • January 1997**

A swastika and other anti-Semitic graffiti were drawn at a middle school.

**Freehold, NJ • Jan. 11, 1997**

Swastikas and racial slurs were painted on several vehicles and a residence. Two 14-year-olds were charged with criminal mischief and a bias crime.

**Princeton, NJ • Jan. 11, 1997**

Swastikas and other anti-Semitic graffiti were painted in a restroom at the Princeton University Art Museum.

**Sayreville, NJ • Jan. 26, 1997**

A racial slogan was written at a Hindu temple.

**Warren, NJ • January 1997**

Anti-Semitic graffiti was spray-painted at a residence and a business.

**Lawrence, NY • Feb. 5, 1997**

Swastikas were scrawled at a high school.

**White Plains, NY • Feb. 12, 1997**

Anti-Semitic graffiti was scrawled at an elementary school. Tyler Lent, 17, was charged with burglary and criminal mischief.

**Beaver Falls, PA • Feb. 5, 1997**

A racial slur, a swastika and the letters "KKK" were painted at a black family's residence.

**Darby Township, PA • February 1997**

Racial epithets and Klan symbols were painted at a black family's residence.

**East Fallowfield, PA • Jan. 28, 1997**

Rocks with racist messages attached were thrown at a black family's residence.

**Middleton, PA • January 1997**

A swastika was written in the snow at a Jewish family's residence.

**Athens, TN • Jan. 28, 1997**

The letters "KKK" were spray-painted at a black family's residence.

**LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS****Heflin, AL • March 1997**

Sandra Gentry, 27, William Andrew Brown, 21, and Johnny Wayne Brimer, 17, were indicted on federal civil rights charges of conspiracy for allegedly burning a black church in November.

**Huntington Beach, CA****February 1997**

Michael Steven Eckert, 18, was convicted of attempted murder and civil rights violations for his part in the 1996 stabbing of an American Indian man.

**Irvine, CA • Feb. 6, 1997**

Richard Machado, 19, was arrested at the Mexican border after eluding police for more than two months. Machado faces charges of civil rights violations for allegedly sending racist e-mail messages to Asian students at University of California-Irvine in September.

**Lancaster, CA • February 1997**

Edward Barr, 49, was charged with suspicion of receiving stolen property and his son, Geoffrey, 21 was charged with suspicion of det-

onating an explosive device in a public place, hate crime, receiving stolen property and possession of marijuana for sale. Authorities found tools allegedly taken from a military base and bomb-related materials that may have been used in an October bombing of a gay bar. Geoffrey Barr pleaded not guilty to the charges.

**Los Angeles, CA • Jan. 9, 1997**

Two Latino men, Allan Holbrook and Michael Bracamonte, both 18, were each sentenced to six years in prison for stabbing and shouting racial slurs at a black man in July. Three other Latino men, Alexander Holguin, 16, and Rudy Romero and Frank Perez, both 19, were sentenced to five years in prison in the incident.

**Los Angeles, CA • Feb. 21, 1997**

Randy Rojas, 21, and Brent Toner, 19, reported members of the Nazi Lowriders, pleaded guilty to beating a Hispanic man in a 1995 racially motivated attack.

**Newark, CA • Jan. 2, 1997**

A 15-year-old was arrested for allegedly spray-painting swastikas and racist graffiti in a neighborhood.

**Riverside, CA • Feb. 13, 1997**

A white man, Michael Charles Brown, 28, was convicted of first-degree murder in the 1994 racially motivated killing of a black student.

**Sacramento, CA • Jan. 7, 1997**

Ralph M. Gerolamy II pleaded guilty to civil rights violations for conspiring to drive black residents out of a neighborhood in 1995 and 1996.

**Sacramento, CA • Jan. 15, 1997**

A black couple, Edward and Karen Abston, pleaded no contest to felony arson charges for their part in painting racist graffiti and setting fire to their residence in July.

**San Diego, CA • March 7, 1997**

Joseph Craver, 50, received a prison sentence of 32 years to life

for attacking a black man with a bowling pin and yelling racial slurs at him in August 1995.

**Santa Ana, CA • Feb. 10, 1997**

Michael Steven Eckert, 18, was convicted of attempted murder, conspiracy and hate crime charges for his part in the fatal stabbing of a Native American man in February 1996.

**Van Nuys, CA • Jan. 30, 1997**

Tim Williams, 18, was sentenced to eight years in prison for the 1995 beating of a black youth at a high school.

**West Covina, CA • Jan. 9, 1997**

Allen Holbrook, 19, and Michael Bracamonte, 18, were sentenced to six years in prison after pleading no contest to assault with intent to commit great bodily injury and a hate crime for stabbing a black man in July. Rudy Romero, 19, Frank Perez, 18, and Alexander Holguin, 17, were sentenced to five years in prison in the incident.

**New Haven, CT • Jan. 2, 1997**

Two white men, Frank Ettore, 36, and Jeff Gordon, 34, were arrested for allegedly leaving threatening, racist messages on a black man's answering machine.

**Plainfield, CT • Jan. 14, 1997**

Wayne J. Gray, 28, was charged with a hate crime after allegedly scrawling a swastika and other anti-Semitic graffiti at a Jewish man's residence.

**Tampa, FL • Jan. 31, 1997**

David P. Broome, 48, was sentenced to 21 months in prison after being convicted in August of racial intimidation for trying to drive away a black family building a house next to his residence.

**Savannah, GA • February 1997**

Razell Spires, 55, Nathaniel Rainey and Tommy James Hulett, both 20, and Joey Spires, 19, were indicted on civil rights violations

for allegedly setting fire to a black family's residence.

**Fort Madison, IA • Jan. 31, 1997**

Garry E. Frock, 50, pleaded guilty to assault in violation of an individual's rights causing injury. He threw urine in a correction officer's face and called her racial slurs in October.

**Collinsville, IL • Jan. 14, 1997**

Erik S. Brooks, a 29-year-old white man, was charged with a hate crime after allegedly yelling a racial slur at a black woman.

**Indianapolis, IN • Feb. 24, 1997**

Philip Lafary, 36, Stephen Hartbarger, 26, and Lonnie Hartbarger, 21, were convicted of violating the civil rights of a biracial couple by burning a cross at their residence in October 1994.

**Wichita, KS • Jan. 2, 1997**

Zachara David Nagy, a white man, was sentenced to 30 months in prison for burning a cross at a black family's residence in June.

**Ouachita, LA • Feb. 7, 1997**

Jason Hart Hinton, 19, pleaded guilty to civil rights violations for burning a cross at a black woman's residence in 1995.

**Boston, MA • Jan. 2, 1997**

Self-proclaimed Skinheads Bryon McHenry, 23, and Nathan Demontigny, 22, pleaded not guilty to tagging and defacing property after allegedly passing out Skinhead business cards, plastering white supremacist stickers in the city and painting swastikas at a synagogue in December.

**Worcester, MA • February 1997**

Two white men, Daniel Mayo and Philip LaForest, both 18, were charged with assault and battery, intimidation of race, color or creed, malicious mischief to property, filing false police reports and impersonating police officers for allegedly painting racial slurs and swastikas at an apartment complex in January.

**Bel Air, MD • Jan. 14, 1997**

Two youths were charged with vandalism for allegedly placing Klan literature in mailboxes in December.

**Columbia, MD • January 1997**

A black woman, Sonia James, 29, pleaded guilty to felony theft and insurance fraud after painting racial epithets at her residence in April.

**Howard County, MD • Feb. 12, 1997**

William Francis Holderman, 20, and Cory Lee Lafon, 18, were charged with burglary and destruction of property for allegedly spray-painting racist and anti-Semitic graffiti at a high school.

**Bangor, ME • Jan. 16, 1997**

Vincent E. Hallowell, 44, was sentenced to eight years in prison for burning a cross at black and biracial families' residences in June. Benjamin J. Newton, 18, was sentenced to 16 months in prison in the incident.

**Clayton, MO • Jan. 30, 1997**

White supremacist Joseph Paul Franklin, 46, was convicted of a 1977 sniper attack that killed a man. Franklin is currently serving six life sentences in federal prison for other murders.

**Bryson City, NC • Jan. 13, 1997**

Alfred Smith, Eugene Smith and Martin King were convicted in connection with the burning of a cross at a biracial couple's residence in 1992.

**Concord, NC • January 1997**

Michael McHone, 18, and Richard Thompson and Jeremy David Cradduck, both 17, were charged with injury to property carried out as a hate crime for allegedly painting racist messages at a black church in December.

**Fayetteville, NC • Jan. 13, 1997**

Army soldier Randy Lee Meadows Jr., 22, pleaded guilty to conspiracy

to commit assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and two counts of accessory before the fact of assault for the 1995 racially motivated murder of two blacks.

**Fayetteville, NC • Feb. 27, 1997**

Former Army soldier James Burmeister, 21, a neo-Nazi Skinhead, was found guilty of two counts of first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder in the 1995 racially motivated killings of a black couple. Burmeister was sentenced in March to life in prison without parole.

**Greensboro, NC • February 1997**

A black man, Tyrone Lamont Lott, 21, was charged with assault with racial intent and assault on a female with racial intent for allegedly beating a biracial couple in February.

**Raleigh, NC • Jan. 23, 1997**

Matthew Neal Blackburn, 18, and three other white men were charged with conspiring to maliciously damage and destroy after allegedly firebombing a black church in June.

**Swansboro, NC • Jan. 31, 1997**

Gary Lee Morris, 42, was charged with communicating a threat, placing an exhibit with intentions to intimidate and perpetrating a hoax by use of a false bomb for allegedly leaving a fake bomb that contained Klan literature at a building.

**Trenton, NJ • January 1997**

Christopher Boyvin, 32, was charged with bias harassment and criminal mischief for allegedly yelling racial slurs at Korean and Indian convenience store employees in December.

**Trenton, NJ • Feb. 21, 1997**

Reported Skinheads Dennis Lurty Sr., 43, and his son Dennis Jr., 24, were arrested on weapons, conspiracy and assault charges for allegedly pointing a 12-gauge shotgun at a youth.

**Union, NJ • Feb. 3, 1997**

A 15-year-old was ordered to perform 48 hours of community service for painting anti-Semitic slurs at a synagogue in March 1996.

**Brooklyn, NY • Jan. 6, 1997**

Joseph Tinnirello, 19, and Paul Tinnirello, 18, were sentenced to seven to 21 years in prison for beating a Hispanic man and four Asian men in September 1995.

**Glens Falls, NY • Feb. 7, 1997**

Philip J. Viger Sr., 40, was convicted of endangering the welfare of a child and second-degree aggravated harassment for threatening a black middle school student in June and calling him a racial slur.

**New York, NY • Feb. 10, 1997**

A black man, Lemrick Nelson Jr., 21, was convicted of civil rights violations in the fatal stabbing of a Hasidic scholar during the Crown Heights riots of 1991.

**Patchogue, NY • January 1997**

Hector Negron, 34, was charged with second-degree aggravated harassment for allegedly sending a racist letter to a black family in November.

**Akron, OH • Jan. 6, 1997**

Joshua Rand and Aaron Hunt, both 19, were sentenced to 15 months in prison and ordered to pay restitution for conspiring to violate the civil rights of a black family. The pair burned a cross at the family's residence in August 1996.

**Cleveland, OH • Feb. 6, 1997**

David D. McKay, a 21-year-old white man, was sentenced to 14 months in prison for placing a cross at a black man's residence in November.

**Clinton County, OH • February 1997**

Chevie Kehoe, 24, and his brother Cheyne C. Kehoe, 20, were indicted in connection with a shoot-out with police. Chevie was indicted on 11 counts, including

three counts of attempted murder of a police officer. Cheyne was indicted on five counts, including felonious assault charges. Both allegedly have ties to Aryan Nations. At presstime, the two men were still at large.

**Dayton, OH • March 7, 1997**

Morris L. Gulett, 41, a member of the Ohio branch of Aryan Nations, was indicted on two counts of felonious assault and one count of failure to comply with the order or signal of a police officer for allegedly trying to elude police in February.

**Parma, OH • Jan. 27, 1997**

Jonathan Burgio, 21, pleaded guilty to ethnic intimidation and was sentenced to 10 days in jail after leaving a cross at a black family's residence in July.

**Gresham, OR • Jan. 29, 1997**

James Matthew Thede, 25, Michael Scott Shuman, 24, and Joshua Dale Bane, 22, were each sentenced to a year and a day in prison after pleading guilty to conspiracy to deny civil rights for burning a cross at a black man's residence in June.

**Portland, OR • January 1997**

Rodney Tufts was sentenced to two and a half years in prison for his part in a cross burning at a black man's residence in June. Troy Allen Harlow, 25, was sentenced to a year in prison.

**Salem, OR • Jan. 24, 1997**

Adam Richard Nelson, 22, a former neo-Nazi Skinhead, was sentenced to 70 months in prison for second-degree assault and 14 months in prison for first-degree intimidation after being convicted of stabbing a man last February.

**Meadville, PA • Jan. 7, 1997**

Bradley Braden, 35, was sentenced to four and a half years to 17 years in prison and his brother, Timothy, 31, was sentenced to five years to 20 years for their part in kid-

napping a black man in a racially motivated incident in November.

#### **Philadelphia, PA • Feb. 13, 1997**

Shane Doyle and Brian Yosko, both 23, and Robert Fanaro, 22, were charged with violating the civil rights of a biracial family during a 1995 cross burning at the family's residence.

#### **Philadelphia, PA • Feb. 18, 1997**

Pennsylvania Aryan Nations leader Mark Thomas, 46, pleaded guilty to conspiracy in connection with a series of bank robberies from October 1994 to December 1995.

#### **Wilkes-Barre, PA • Jan. 28, 1997**

William Jenkins, 37, an alleged white supremacist with ties to the white supremacist prison gang Aryan Brotherhood, was charged with federal firearms and drug violations for allegedly exchanging weapons for marijuana in November.

#### **Newport, RI • Jan. 22, 1997**

A white man, William C. Lee Jr., 30, was placed on probation after he pleaded no contest to two counts of filing false reports for placing a false hate crime report in 1995. His former girlfriend, Tisha Anderson, 25, a black woman, was ordered to pay restitution to the apartment complex where she lived for her part in the incident.

#### **Charleston, SC • Feb. 20, 1997**

Former Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan member Gary Christopher Cox, 23, was sentenced to 19 and a half years in prison for setting fire to a black church in June 1995. Former Christian Knights member Timothy Adron Welch, 24, was sentenced to 18 years in prison.

#### **St. Johnsbury, VT • Jan. 10, 1997**

Edward Nichols, 60, was sentenced to a year in prison for yelling anti-gay epithets at two women in 1996.

#### **Port Townsend, WA • Feb. 21, 1997**

Dale P. White, 42, pleaded guilty to malicious harassment and reckless endangerment for threatening two men he believed to be gay.

#### **LEAFLETTING**

#### **Auburn, AL • Jan. 31, 1997**

Anti-Semitic literature was sent to a residence.

#### **Clanton, AL • February 1997**

Racist literature was distributed.

#### **Huntsville, AL • January 1997**

Klan stickers were left at an Islamic center.

#### **Mobile, AL • Feb. 19, 1997**

White supremacist literature was left on a woman's car.

#### **Claremont, CA • February 1997**

Racist fliers containing swastikas and white power slogans were left at several residences and on cars.

#### **La Jolla, CA • Feb. 5, 1997**

White supremacist literature was distributed.

#### **Roseville, CA • February 1997**

Racist and anti-Semitic fliers from the World Church of the Creator were distributed.

#### **San Diego, CA • Feb. 13, 1997**

Anti-Semitic fliers were left at a synagogue.

#### **San Marcos, CA • Feb. 6, 1997**

Racist fliers were distributed at California State University-San Marcos.

#### **Covington, KY • Feb. 22, 1997**

White power fliers from American National Socialist Resistance were posted in a neighborhood.

#### **Abington, MD • January 1997**

Racist literature was distributed.

#### **Edgewater, MD • January 1997**

Racist literature from the Invincible Empire Knights of the Ku Klux Klan was distributed.

#### **Bay City, MI • Feb. 16, 1997**

National Alliance literature was allegedly distributed by Skinheads at a bar.

#### **Gibraltar, MI • Jan. 18, 1997**

Neo-Nazi literature from the New Order was distributed.

#### **Mountain View, MO • February 1997**

Anti-Semitic literature from Gordon Winrod's "The Winrod Letter" was distributed.

#### **Springfield, MO • Jan. 20, 1997**

National Alliance literature was distributed at a Martin Luther King Jr. rally.

#### **West Plains, MO • February 1997**

Gordon Winrod's anti-Semitic newsletter "The Winrod Letter" was distributed.

#### **Littleton, NC • Feb. 9, 1997**

Racist fliers were left on several lawns in a neighborhood and placed on a woman's car windshield.

#### **Mt. Airy, NC • Feb. 15, 1997**

American Knights of the Ku Klux Klan members, led by Brad Thompson, distributed literature.

#### **Minot, ND • January 1997**

Anti-Semitic literature from Our Savior's Church was sent to several residences.

#### **Newark, NJ • Feb. 16, 1997**

The New Castle County Keystone Knights of the Ku Klux Klan distributed literature.

#### **Sylvania, OH • January 1997**

Anti-Semitic fliers were left in several books at the public library.

#### **Allentown, PA • January 1997**

White supremacist literature was left at an apartment complex.

#### **Parkersburg, PA • Jan. 20, 1997**

Neo-Nazi literature from the Adolf Hitler Free Corps was distributed.

#### **Plymouth Meeting, PA**

#### **Jan. 31, 1997**

Klan fliers were left on several cars in a parking lot.

#### **Sadsburyville, PA • Jan. 20, 1997**

Adolf Hitler Free Corps literature was left at residences.

#### **RALLIES**

#### **Williston, FL • Jan. 18, 1997**

Klansmen and Skinheads held a rally.

#### **Fort Wayne, IN • Jan. 18, 1997**

Members of the American Knights of the Ku Klux Klan held a rally.

#### **Columbus, OH • Feb. 16, 1997**

About 40 Klansmen and Aryan Nations members held a rally to protest Black History Month.

#### **PROTESTS**

#### **Cumming, GA • Jan. 20, 1997**

A handful of white supremacists, including Nationalist Movement members and longtime Klansman Danny Carver, protested the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. A Nationalist Movement member was charged with simple assault and two counter-demonstrators were charged with disorderly conduct.

#### **Nacogdoches, TX • Jan. 28, 1997**

About 15 members of W. N. Otwell's "God Said" Ministries protested against homosexuals. ▲

#### **CORRECTIONS**

• A caption in the last issue of the *Intelligence Report* incorrectly identified the agencies that arrested a Georgia militia leader. The arrest was made by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the Crawford County Sheriff's Office.

• The name of the Middle Eastern terrorist group Hamas was spelled incorrectly.

# A MESSAGE TO CENTER SUPPORTERS

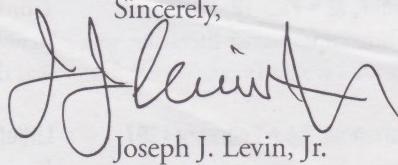
Dear Center Supporter,

Two years after the Oklahoma City bombing, this issue of the *Intelligence Report* answers the question: where is the "Patriot" Movement today? The Report's articles reveal:

- ▲ A surprising increase in the strength of the "Patriot" Movement since Oklahoma City;
- ▲ How "Patriot" groups are using the Internet to seek recruits and spread anti-government hatred;
- ▲ The development of a national militia network for spying on the military, law enforcement and public utilities in the United States;
- ▲ The fastest growing segment of the anti-government movement — radical, violence-prone religious separatists; and much, much more.

With your help, the Southern Poverty Law Center's Klanwatch Project is able to send the *Intelligence Report* free of charge to over 6,500 law enforcement sources. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Joseph J. Levin, Jr.  
President

P.S. When you have finished reading the *Intelligence Report*, please take the time to pass it along to members of law enforcement or a community group that can use the information.

## INTELLIGENCE REPORT

KLANWATCH & MILITIA TASK FORCE  
PROJECTS OF THE  
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